

Volume 95

# See McCormack as Big Man in Mayoral Fight

**Inactive Democrats Believe  
That Congressman Might Be  
Induced to Run**

By Forrest P. Hull

Though Congressman John W. McCormack has persistently refused, both here and in Washington, to consider himself as an aspirant for the mayoralty, many of his friends continue to express the opinion that if the field of Democratic aspirants could be reasonably cleared the congressman could be induced to run.

There is no question but Mr. McCormack is intensely interested in the muddled situation which has led both the Democratic City Committee and a group of Boston members of the Legislature and the city council to debate it seriously and attempt to pick a Democrat of prominence and popularity to bear the standards of the party in the fight. Mr. McCormack has been repeatedly told that he is the only man who could step into the contest and reduce the chaos, but to all appeals he has remained cold. Despite his coldness, some of his friends have not given up hope that he is the man to whom the party will be able to turn when the proper time arrives.

Councilor Dowd's meeting at the Hotel Statler last night resulted, as was predicted, in no serious attempt to pick a candidate for mayor. The councilor was first concerned with securing the interest of the Boston legislators and city councilors in an organization, to act independently or in connection with the Democratic city committee. An organization was effected with the choice of Mr. Dowd as president; Senator Joseph C. White of Jamaica Plain as vice president; Representative John J. Hurley, secretary, and Senator Edward Carroll treasurer.

Though the meeting was noisy at times and clearly indicated the fact that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to make choice of a candidate, several of the forty officeholders present declared that the new organization had interesting possibilities. A committee of ten members, with Senator Joseph Finnegan at the head, was appointed to call upon Governor Ely to request that he exert his influence to secure legislation for the re-establishment of partisanship in Boston city elections.

Last week the Democratic city committee named a committee, with Chairman John W. Newman at the head, to make a similar request upon the governor. An appointment was made, but the governor was not on hand at the time set, and nothing since has been accomplished. It was plain to the committee members that the governor did not wish to take up the question, or even to see the committee members, inasmuch as the Legislature has adopted a resolve providing for the appointment of a recess committee to study the Boston city charter in the light of changes which have been suggested.

The fact that only forty of the Boston officeholders out of a possible sixty-nine attended last night's meeting indicated

to critics the slight appeal which Councilor Dowd's experiment embodied. There are several Boston members of the Legislature who are laughing at the movement, such as Representative Lewis R. Sullivan, who blandly inquires where Dowd and Newman were when his bill providing for partisan elections in Boston was before the Legislature a few weeks ago.

Scores of Democratic politicians deplore the effort of Dowd and Newman to interfere with the mayoral fight. They freely declare that such efforts, instead of making for harmony, will have the tendency to split the party wide open by antagonizing particularly the younger element and the women, who are strongly against the machine brand of politics. That is why much favorable comment was heard yesterday when it was announced that Congressmen McCormack and Douglass, W. T. A. Fitzgerald, Francis A. Campbell and Sheriff Kelliher would attend Councilor Dowd's party. It was felt that these seasoned politicians would express their conviction that office-holders particularly should attend to their knitting and let the Democratic City Committee handle the situation, if any such attempt were feasible.

But the gentlemen named did not appear and there appeared to be no steady influence in the group. Talk was loud at times, especially when Councilor Peter A. Murray of Jamaica Plain proposed that the organization should embrace either the entire Democratic City Committee or the chairmen of the ward committees. Mr. Murray feared criticism that the office-holders had no more right to pick a candidate for mayor than any other group of citizens. Action on the proposal was not taken.

Councilor Dowd announced at the close of the meeting that he and his associates had agreed that no attempt would be made to ease the mayoralty situation until October, when all candidates will have entered the race.

**Mayor McGrath will demand of the overseers the names and addresses of the 31,000 recipients of doles.**

The purpose will be to check on hundreds of cases which are believed to be irregular. This phase of the investigation will be undertaken by Corp. Counsel Samuel Silverman, it was said.

## STAR CHAMBER SESSION

"It would be obviously unfair to officials of the welfare department to disclose at this time information about matters which they will be called upon to explain," McGrath said last night.

"Until they have had the opportunity to learn what the nature of the allegations is, I will positively say nothing."

The hearing, it was said, will be behind closed doors.

The demand on the overseers for records of dole recipients will be the highpoint of the situation it was brought to light by the Boston Sunday Advertiser last year.

From high authority it was learned that hundreds of persons who have given wrong addresses are drawing doles.

Among the members of the welfare board who will appear at the hearing Tuesday will be Simon E. Hecht, chairman, and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary. A third is Charles J. Fox, who is an overseer, and also city budget commissioner.

## TO DEMAND INDEX

In other circles, it was asserted that the police inquiry into the welfare board's system would have revealed the same condition alleged by McGrath, but so many disputes by the police探者 and the welfare board broke out that the investigation died at the time.

McGrath will demand that private charities give the city the right to examine the secret central index which lists the recipients of private and public aid.

Acting Mayor McGrath is said to have information that many recipients of the dole are motoring in pleasure cars, registered in their own names. He will insist that every receiver of money from the welfare fund sign his name and address each time money is received and that no shortage of clerical help will be accepted as an excuse for this check being made.

Other possible developments which loomed last night were that Mayor Curley may curtail his European trip and hurry home, and that the grand jury may inquire into the matter.

ADV 12 RT 18 EA 7/9/33  
**RELIEF 'GRAFT'  
LIST IS DRAWN  
UP BY M'GRATH**

**Acting Mayor Silent About  
Bombshell Quiz He Will  
Hurl at Overseers Tuesday**

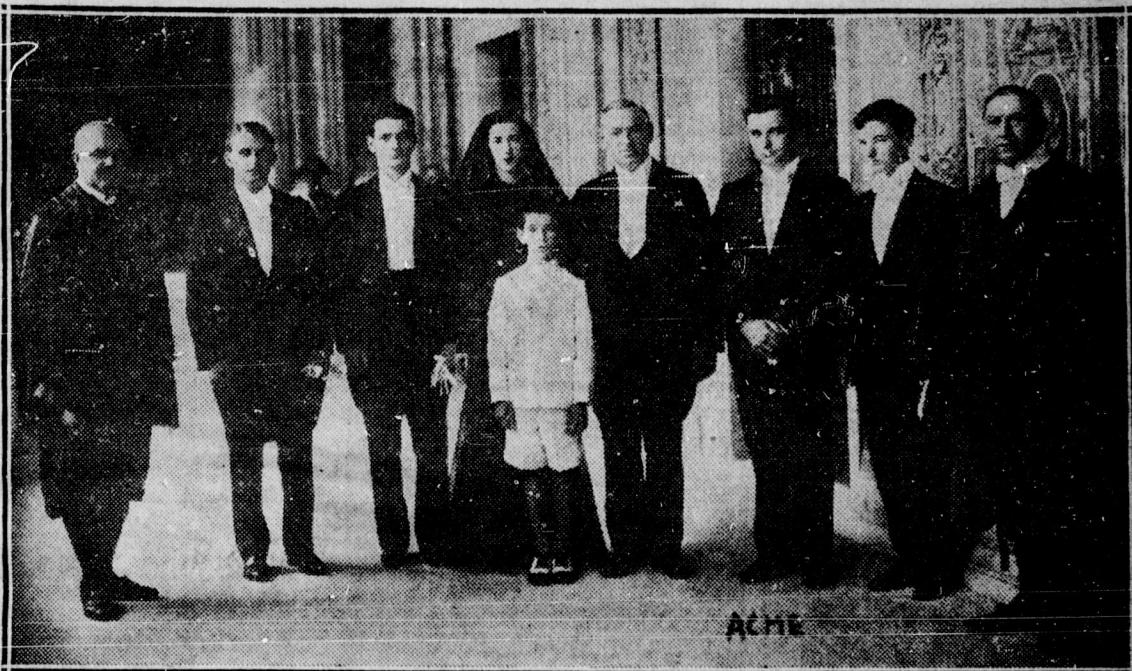
Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath yesterday drew up a table of charges which overseers of the public welfare must answer Tuesday in connection with an impending expose of alleged graft and waste of millions of dollars in the public dole system. McGrath said he would insist on a new system of administration.

The acting mayor officially admitted to the Boston Sunday Advertiser that he has set out on a clean-up campaign of public and private charities in the city.

At the same time, it was learned at City Hall, at Tuesday's hearing

POST 7/8/33

## *Mayor and Family at Vatican*



The photo shows Mayor James M. Curley of Boston with his family at the Vatican after an audience with Pope Pius XI. Left to right: Papal usher, William J. Quinn of Boston, Paul Curley, Mary Curley, Francis Curley, Mayor James M. Curley, Leo Curley, George Curley.

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## **MAYORS TO FIGHT DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

**Want U. S. Fund Divided on  
Basis of \$1 for Each \$3 Spent**

The mayors of several cities will join with acting Mayor Joseph McGrath of Boston in formally protesting the proposed method of state distribution of welfare relief money received from the federal government when the legislative committee on rules holds a hearing, Monday, on McGrath's bill for allocation of the funds to cities and towns on the basis of \$1 for each \$3 expended for welfare aid.

Although the allocation of money to the state as a whole is being made by the federal government on a basis of \$1 for each \$3 spent, the Massachusetts emergency finance board, which will administer the fund has ruled tentatively that this method will not be followed in distributing the money to the cities and towns, but that the individual need of communities will be a primary consideration in the determination of allotments.

Already \$2,000,000 has been turned over to the state by the federal government in making an initial allotment on a total of something over \$11,000,000 to be received under the public relief act of 1933.

In addition to acting Mayor McGrath, Mayor Richard M. Russell of Cambridge, John C. Mahoney of Worcester, Dwight R. Winter of Springfield and George J. Bates of Salem have already protested the method of disbursement adopted by the state board.

Mayor Bates, a member of the executive committee of the Mayors Club of Massachusetts, declared during a visit to the State House yesterday that the funds should be distributed in the same manner as other grants distributed by the state, that is, in accordance with the uniform principle underlying the state tax.

The Salem executive feels that under the method adopted by the state board, the cities and towns that have administered their functions efficiently will be penalized in favor of communities which have followed "the easiest way" in meeting the challenge of reduced revenue and increased relief expenditures.

In the case of Boston, according to A. B. Casson, legislative agent for the city, the final determination of the method of allotments will have great significance as welfare expenditures by the city during the first six months of this year were approximately \$7,000,000.

AMERICAN 7/8/33

# M'GRATH TO SIFT PRIVATE CHARITIES SECRETS

Acting Mayor Extends Inquiry to Show Up Welfare Racket

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, who hurled a bombshell by revealing that overseers of the public welfare would be called to account next Tuesday for glaring irregularities, said to cause \$2,000,000 waste annually in public aid, is also going to include private charities in his "clean-up" campaign, it was learned today.

McGrath will demand access to the secret central index kept by private charities, in which are listed all recipients of aid, both public and private, in Boston.

He will demand that the city be permitted to keep this index hereafter, inasmuch as the city distributes \$12,000,000 in charity, while the private organizations distribute \$5,000,000.

McGrath plans also to ask the private organizations to account for the funds collected in the past year from the public and to state how much has been spent for salaries and other expenses.

## CURLEY MAY RUSH HOME

The Boston welfare department reports all its cases to the central private bureau but gets no information in return, it is said. College girls, studying sociology, have been permitted to examine the secret records, but city officials are barred.

Wholesale resignations, the hurried return of Mayor Curley from Europe and grand jury inquiry loom as possible results of the \$2,000,000 welfare bombshell, first revealed yesterday in the Boston Evening American exclusively.

Widespread frauds were exposed last winter by the Boston Evening American and reforms were promised at that time.

## MANY OWN PROPERTY

Clerks as well as visitors and overseers of the public welfare bu-

reau are said to be concerned in the alleged irregularities unearthed by McGrath, who has ordered leading officials to appear before him Tuesday at 2 p. m.

They include two members of the board of public welfare, Simon E. Hecht, chairman, and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary. Charles J. Fox, who is an overseer as well as city budget commissioner, also has been called.

These were admitted by Acting Mayor McGrath, but he was loath to discuss details of the revelations until after the conference is held.

Specific explanations, some of which are bound to be most difficult, will be demanded of the overseers on flagrant cases of unworthy and even non-existent recipients.

Scores of recipients have never been known on the records that appear in the welfare office. Others have been paid weekly allowances in spite of their ownership of property.

More have been cited as impoverished persons, while their sons and daughters maintain autos and other luxuries; many persons have been receiving more than the \$15 weekly maximum allowed by law, and hundreds have been signing their names with a cross when it is known they are perfectly able to write.

## MYSTERY WOMAN PAID

Case after case has been approved by visitors without any investigation of the recipient, the visitor feeling secure in the knowledge that the recipient's family would not report such a condition.

A specific case that was unearthed, according to reliable information, was that of a woman recipient who was listed at a South End address. A visitor who called was told that no such woman lived there but that a woman from Brookline hired a room at the house around the date on which the welfare application was made.

Political circles buzzed with excitement over the quiz that was called by Acting Mayor McGrath for Tuesday instead of waiting for the return of Mayor Curley. It was reported, however, that his discoveries were of such a startling nature that immediate action was needed for the protection of taxpayers as well as the protection of those worthy cases on the welfare list.

From all indications, Acting Mayor McGrath will enlist the advice and aid of Corp. Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Clerk Wilfred J. Doyle, City Auditor Rupert S. Carven and James P. Balfe, director of the municipal statistics department.

Welfare matters have been the worry of Acting Mayor McGrath during the past three years. He

led many fights in the city council for investigation of this and that angle of welfare work.

It was followed by a move of McGrath's that required the welfare department to submit weekly reports of disbursements to the statistics department headed by Balfe.

It was in these periodic checkups that wide discrepancies were found and were "clinched" in such a way that certain officials of the welfare department will find it utterly impossible to escape charges.

Many feel that the work of that department, with its "sure fire" way of finding the truth in welfare matters, was the reason for the sudden termination of police investigation of welfare recipients toward the close of last year.

It was a further indication that Mayor Curley saw in the system a better method of checking than through police, although he maintained silence when criticism was hurled at him for stopping the police probe.

At the time the then City Councillor McGrath demanded that Mayor Curley require the welfare department to submit figures, he predicted that comparison of the welfare list with the index on file in the statistics department would show startling facts.

Counsel Silverman and Atty. William H. Taylor, the latter a member of the welfare board for the last five years, issued denials that welfare matters were under investigation.

"The reports are ridiculous and without foundation," they dueted.

Taylor added that the department is "not only the most investigated department in the city, but also one of the best regulated in the entire country."

Tuesday's meeting will be behind closed doors, according to the plan of Acting Mayor McGrath. Until the proper time, strict secrecy will be maintained, it is understood.

## TWO DEFEND BOARD

Atty. William H. Taylor, who has been a member of the board of overseers for five years, said:

"The reports are ridiculous and without foundation. Our department is not only the most investigated in the city but one of the best regulated welfare departments in the entire country."

Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the department, and the only high official who devotes his entire time to welfare matters, said:

"The board is prepared to refute ev'ry charge. The charges are without foundation in fact. Nothing has been said, no charges have or can be made that we cannot refute."

"We had no knowledge of these charges until they appeared in the newspapers. Had we been consulted, there would have been no necessity for this newspaper broadcast, because we can answer every charge to the satisfaction of all citizens."

mt NERALD 7/8/33

RECORD

council approved, compelled the welfare department to submit to the council a list of all recipients of unemployment relief, segregated by voting precincts. A long period elapsed between the issuance of the council order and compliance by the department and when the figures were revealed, numerous councilmen, including McGrath, regarded them as confirmatory of their suspicions that the management of the department was greatly deficient.

#### WELFARE ROLLS CHECKED

Within a year McGrath, with the council and Mayor Curley concurring, created the city index in the statistics department. This index lists more than 95,000 places of habitation in the city, the occupants, the taxable valuation, ownership of automobiles, and all other salient facts obtainable from the voting list, police listing, the most recent directories, telephone directories, and other sources of information.

McGrath's demand on Mayor Curley to compel the welfare department to submit weekly to the statistics department the list of disbursements for unemployment relief was backed by the prediction that comparison of the list with the index would reveal astounding information.

Director Balfe and his subordinates have, it was said yesterday, carefully checked the welfare rolls with their index. No inkling of what the check reveals has been permitted to become officially known, but rumors which are accepted as fact predict that for the first time since the welfare problem has been under consideration, the officials of that department will find it impossible to meet the charges which will be hurled at them.

Aside from the investigation by the statistics department it is known that Corporation Counsel Silverman has employed constables in the law department to make secret inquiry about numerous recipients, regarded as suspicious, chosen at random from the large list of such cases.

At a South end lodging house, where a woman recipient, collecting weekly, was reported to live, the landlady is said to have declared that more than a year ago, the woman, a resident of Brookline, rented a room for a week and then departed.

Asked if visitors from the welfare department have ever tried to check the woman, the landlady is reported to have said that periodically a visitor has called, has asked to see the recipient and has been told that she is unknown and has not been seen for more than a year.

This case is reported to be typical of the discoveries of the law department investigators.

Another element in the situation concerns the tremendous number of recipients who receive money without indicating any address. In many other cases recipients can not be found at the addresses at which they are listed and in some instances residents have declared that they never heard of the persons claiming to live in their homes.

The information submitted to Acting Mayor McGrath is said to absolutely confirm the claims made a year ago by Police Commissioner Hultman, who charged that the welfare system of administration was wide open to fraud and that advantage was being taken of it by hundreds of unscrupulous persons.

## Hundreds in Aid Frauds

Acting upon evidence of fraud in hundreds of instances, allegedly unearthed in a secret probe of the city welfare department, Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath yesterday summoned welfare heads and other city officials to a conference Tuesday, the Daily Record learned last night.

Although McGrath refused to discuss Tuesday's conference or give his reasons for the calling of Chairman Simon Hecht and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the overseers of public welfare, it was learned they will be asked to explain many violations alleged to have been uncovered by secret investigators.

Present at the conference will be McGrath, Budget Commr. Charles J. Fox, Corp. Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Clerk Wilfred J. Doyle and City Auditor Rupert S. Carven. The session will commence behind closed doors at the mayor's office at 2 o'clock on Tuesday.

#### HUNDREDS OF FRAUDS

The probe has revealed hundreds of persons receiving welfare aid from the city, of whom the welfare department has no record of residence, it was claimed at city hall.

Fictitious names, in which money is paid to persons not entitled to aid, have been uncovered, it was said, as well as cases where money

is paid to one person under several names.

It has been discovered, it was claimed, that many who are on the lists, unable to sign their own names, are paid on a cross-mark, beside which a clerk enters their names. Yet, the probe is said to reveal these same persons are on the city voting lists, a requirement for which is the ability not only to sign one's name but to read English as well.

#### WHAT POLICE FOUND

A reopening of the entire question of alleged fraud in city welfare, investigated last year by the police department, was expected to follow Acting Mayor McGrath's action.

At that time, claims of Police Commr. Hultman that over 25 percent of claims for aid were fraudulent were refuted by both the welfare department and Mayor Curley.

Thousands of cases were investigated by patrolmen, under direction of the late Deputy Supt. Thomas F. Goode, who was placed in charge of the probe by Hultman. The police commissioner forwarded reports to the mayor on hundreds of individual cases, but very few were prosecuted.

In defending the welfare department and ordering the police to cease their probe, Mayor Curley declared it was to be expected that a certain amount of fraud was bound to exist in the thousands of cases handled by the welfare department. He asserted his belief that the percentage in Boston was negligible, and declared the police probe itself showed this to be a fact.

#### THREE HELD BY COURT

Three men charged with obtaining aid fraudulently were arraigned in municipal court yesterday. They pleaded not guilty and were held in \$500 each.

According to Special Officer Ernest F. Fanjoy, who made the three arrests, he will apply for 20 more warrants against persons who are receiving aid, although they are working.

The three arraigned yesterday were Harry Yaffee of Browning Ave., Dorchester, and Joseph Sidman and Sidney Smith, both of Morton St., Roxbury. It is charged that Yaffee, a presser, obtained \$115.25 by fraud and that Sidman and Smith obtained part of the money under the pretext they could fix Yaffee's welfare card so no suspicion would fall on him.



H E R A L D 7/8/33

# WASTE TO CITY \$50,000 WEEKLY, PROBE REVEALS

Inefficiency in Welfare Department Procedure Is Charged

## MANY RECIPIENTS CANNOT BE FOUND

Board Members Must Appear Before Acting Mayor At Meeting Tuesday

By JAMES GOGGIN  
(Copyright, 1933, Herald-Traveler Corp.)

Overseers of the public welfare will be asked by Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, at a conference, Tuesday afternoon, to explain deficiencies in the administration of the department and laxity in the supervision of the employees which is held accountable for an annual disbursement of \$2,000,000 in excess of requirements necessary to properly relieve the distress of the unemployed.

Astounding facts supporting the charge based on a suddenly terminated police investigation last year that inefficient administration of the welfare department was imposing a penalty of about \$50,000 weekly on Boston taxpayers have been uncovered in a recently completed secret investigation of the recipients of public aid.

Demand for specific explanations of a large number of the most flagrant cases of unworthy or non-existent recipients will be made Tuesday on Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers, Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the department, and Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, also an overseer.

### NOT AT ADDRESSES

For several weeks it has been known that an intensive study of the disbursement of the welfare department and

## PROMINENT IN WELFARE EXPOSE



JOSEPH McGRATH  
Acting mayor.



SIMON HECHT  
Chairman of welfare board.

the recipients has been in progress in the statistics department. Until the police listing of April 1 was made available as the most recent check of residents over 21 years old, the comparison of statistics filed in the department of municipal statistics with welfare records revealed such startling facts of a highly suspicious nature that officials were reluctant to regard conclusions as indicative of facts.

The recent police listing provided the most essential and complete basis for the checkup of recipients and among the facts which it is understood have been uncovered are:

Hundreds of persons have been drawing aid regularly who are not known at the addresses listed by the welfare department.

A large percentage of the hundreds who are reputed to be so illiterate that they are unable to sign their names to receipts of aid are not only able to write legibly but to read as well as the average grammar school pupil.

Many persons, including some recorded as illiterate, have been receiving in excess of the maximum weekly allotment of \$15.

Recipients, who own property and whose children maintain automobiles, are carried on the records of the department as impoverished.

Visitors of the department, unable to find recipients, and told that they have never been known at the addresses on the records, have failed to initiate action to strike such persons from the welfare rolls.

### STARTLING REVELATIONS

Other and equally as startling revelations are said to be known to Acting

Mayor McGrath and his associates on the board of inquiry. They regard the situation of such seriousness that immediate action is necessary for the protection of the taxpayers.

It is hinted that enough evidence has been gathered to create the suspicion that employes of the welfare department may be criminally liable for their actions.

In the prosecution of the inquiry, which is said to have its basis in incontrovertible facts, Acting Mayor McGrath will be aided by Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Clerk Wilfred J. Doyle and City Auditor Rupert S. Carven, who share with McGrath mayoral authority during the absence of Mayor Curley.

At the conference they will have the assistance of James P. Balfie, director of the municipal statistics department whose assistants in conjunction with inquiry by constables of the law department have, it is said, found conclusive proof of at least gross laxity in the disbursement of relief money.

### SENSATIONAL FACTS

Acting Mayor McGrath refused yesterday to discuss the situation. He admitted that the rumor that Hecht, McCarthy and Fox have been summoned to a conference was a fact but would make no other comment. None of the other officials in possession of what are described as highly sensational facts would talk. The executives of the welfare department are ignorant of the character of the information which they will be asked to explain.

That McGrath believes that for the first time since suspicion has been cast at the welfare department, an iron-clad case has been worked up which warrants a complete reorganization of the welfare department was disclosed at City Hall yesterday, however.

For three years McGrath has been firing at the welfare department for the purpose of obtaining the records of disbursements in order to ascertain the measure of efficiency in the management of the department.

His first move, which the city coun-

TRANSCRIPT

7/8/33

# Silverman Has Found No Fraud in City Welfare

## Has Handled Many Disputed Cards and Suggested Co-operative Session

Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman today branded a morning story of city welfare frauds as "ridiculous" and as without "foundation in fact," so far as his department has been able to observe. He declared that it was upon his suggestion that Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath called into conference for next Tuesday the overseers of the public welfare, Secretary Walter V. McCarthy and other employees, to explain certain discrepancies between the police listing cards and those of the department.

For months the city statistics department has been working on welfare cases under James P. Balfe, the director. Acting Mayor McGrath was one of the city council sponsors of the investigation and has followed it closely since it started. Director Balfe reports that the police listing cards indicate many non-existing recipients of public aid, but he has received police cards only up to the end of last year.

When Mr. Balfe reported the first of his findings, Corporation Counsel Silverman took a dozen cards for an independent investigation. He found eight of the recipients of public aid actually living at the address given, despite the police report of inability to locate them. Two or three of the persons named had moved from the addresses the police had on file and one or more cases were suspicious.

On another occasion the corporation counsel, using the constables of the department, took seventy-five cards that were open to suspicion in the statistics department, based on police listing. In one case the man had been dead for six years, but the public aid was being continued to his widow and six children on the original name. In many cases the law department found that the recipients actually could not write and were signing their weekly slips by crosses. The department found no case where the listed recipient was not getting the aid under which he was scheduled, but there were certain cases that needed further explanation.

"There may be three thousand cases of public aid which failed to be recorded by the police," Mr. Silverman said today, "but we can't say that we have discovered a single case of fraud. The welfare department should be given every opportunity to explain the cases where discrepancies exist. Certainly the administration should be anxious, as I know it is, to reduce the monthly payrolls."

Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the overseers; William H. Taylor, attorney and member of the board, and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy, have branded as false all such allegations which have filtered from the statistics department in the last three or four months.

Mr. Taylor brought out the fact today that six weeks before Mayor Curley sailed abroad he called the overseers of public welfare into conference with Director Balfe and went over a large number of cases which had been presented as suspicious. The mayor was

apparently satisfied with the welfare department's explanation of every case, and in unmistakable terms cautioned Director Balfe to be sure of his facts before presenting reports on the foundation of police cards.

"If there is fraud in our department, we, as overseers, are anxious to jump into the middle of it and run every clew to earth," Attorney Taylor said. "We have twelve unpaid overseers and we meet several times a week to go over cases. We have upwards of 100 visitors who search every case with the thoroughness of a fine-tooth comb. We are as much interested in the old cases on the records as we are with the new applications. We turn down a large percentage of new applications, and at the same time we are constantly striking old cases off the lists.

"When you stop to consider the work involved in dispensing \$1,000,000 a month to the needy, it should be at once apparent that there will be found 'chiselers in the list, men or women who are anxious to obtain more help than they need or men and women who are actually unworthy of any help. We are constantly ferreting out these cases. The disgruntled often become loud talkers and spread suspicion.

"Certainly, if there is any possibil-

chance to save the taxpayers' money the overseers are anxious to do it and welcome any aid to that end that might come to them. We have a great duty to perform and we appreciate our responsibilities, properly to care for those in actual need as well as to safeguard the interests of the taxpayers. We want the city to get full value of every dollar expended and we believe that the department is functioning as well, if not better, than any other in the country, considering the amount of work involved.

Attorney Taylor emphatically denied certain rumors that the inquiries of the statistics department might lead to resignations in the board of overseers. Such rumors, he said, had been circulated from time to time, and absolutely without foundation. He termed the board a most harmonious body.

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# CHARGES REVIVED IN WELFARE CASES

## Clerical Checkup Completed—Foley Given No Evidence as Yet

Once again Boston's Public Welfare Department is projected into the lime-light; this time by a resurrection of the charges made during the Boston Police investigation of several months ago. As far as could be learned this morning, little new has been added to these charges, except that they can now be presented by districts, instead of in bulk, as was done during the last investigation.

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, while a member of the Council, fought diligently to have the public welfare cases separated into districts and for several months James P. Balfe of the Bureau of Statistics has been going over the cards of welfare recipients, separating them into voting precincts.

AS FAR AS COULD BE LEARNED AT CITY HALL THIS MORNING THERE HAS BEEN NO NEW INVESTIGATION. WORKERS HAVE NOT BEEN OUT IN THE FIELD, BUT A CLERICAL CHECK-UP HAS BEEN GOING ON IN THE STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ALTHOUGH THE CHARGES ARE NOW REVIVED, NO ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO PRESENT EVIDENCE TO DIST ATTY FOLEY UP TO NOW. MAYOR MCGRATH HAS CALLED A MEETING OF BUDGET COMMISSIONER FOX, CHAIRMAN HECHT OF THE BOARD OF OVERSEERS AND SECRETARY McCARTHY OF THAT BOARD FOR TUESDAY MORNING TO FURTHER DISCUSS THE CASES.

TRANSCRIPT

7/8/33

POST

## Walsh to Touch Up Patronage on Trip to Capital

Senator, However, Says National Departmental Matters Are Paramount Now

By William F. Furbush

The presence in Washington next week of Senator David I. Walsh will grease the ways for the long-delayed launching of the ship of Federal jobs for restive Massachusetts Democrats. The craft is not likely to poke its nose into the receptive waters much before the expiration of ten days or two weeks, but an informal discussion of the patronage problem which the senator plans to have in the capital will at least be a definite approach toward the goal at which the hopefults have been glancing wistfully for four long months.

The senior senator, who has been besieged by applicants, or their sponsors, almost constantly since his return to the Bay State from the special session of Congress, stated today that he will leave his Clinton home tomorrow night for the capital to take up several matters of important departmental business, which, in their national nature, take precedence over local patronage.

He indicated that, while patronage is naturally of prime importance from the distinctly local viewpoint, such subjects as the set-up for the Administration's public works' program and the Home Loan banks are of paramount importance and must come first for presidential consideration.

Among other departmental matters which Mr. Walsh will take up in conferences before his expected return home on Wednesday or Thursday will be a renewal of his attempt for the re-opening of the Chelsea Naval Hospital, which he wants to be made into a general hospital for the treatment of all veterans who have sustained disabilities while in service. He also will go before the Navy Department in a further attempt to induce the department to increase the amount of work to be done in the Navy Yard here.

### Expects Set-Up Here Shortly

The senator's immediate concern, in co-operation with the desires of the Administration, is the set-up of the public works program by which this State will proceed with its share of the \$3,300,000,000 under the industrial recovery act in the big Roosevelt program to combat unemployment. The senator said that he expected the appointment shortly of the Federal administrator for this State, the selection to be acceptable to Governor Joseph B. Ely in keeping with the Federal aim to co-operate fully with the responsible heads of government in each State.

By centering their immediate attention on departmental matters in their connection with the Roosevelt "new deal" the senator and Administration officials obviously have determined that local patronage, acute subject though it may be to those immediately concerned and already long deferred, may wait a little longer until the bigger job of getting the unemployed back to work is effectively started.

"Further than to state that he would take up the subject of patronage "informally" with Postmaster General James A. Farley, chief presiding mogul over distribution of the plums, Mr. Walsh was reluctant to discuss the subject. He casually said that he had not completed any list of suggestions for such major rewards as United States Attorney, internal revenue collector, United States marshal or immigration commissioner, and appeared certain that no such list would be ready by the time he next saw Farley.

There is some chance that the informal Walsh-Farley conference may be in the nature of a "feeling-out" exchange of ideas, from which each may glean a hint of how far the other's preferences extend. This possibility is in consideration of the fact that the senior senator and all other prominent Democratic leaders of the State, excepting Mayor James M. Curley, were supporters of former Governor Alfred E. Smith for the presidential nomination which went to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

There may be a feeling in certain Roosevelt factions that Smith supporters should experience a marked degree of coolness, but, Senator Walsh, with his veto power over subsequent confirmation of the recess appointments which he can exercise through senatorial courtesy, if he desires, may elect to prevent any comprehensive ice barrier being erected against so-called Smithites.

### May Come One by One

It is a matter of speculation whether the appointments when made, will come in bulk or trickle through one by one. The latter contingency is possible, if the powers that be get into an impasse requiring compromise by way of "trading."

There will be further delay in view of the fact that, before he submits his final list of suggestions, Senator Walsh will hold what may be termed "courtesy" conferences with Governor Ly, as national committeeman, his colleague, Senator Marcus A. Coolidge, James Roosevelt, son of the President, and Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of the State Committee, incidentally the first only one to date to receive a major local reward-collector of the port of Boston.

James Roosevelt has returned from his cruise with his father, the President, coming by train, instead of the Amherst II, to make better time. He may be expected to study the list to be certain that it represents he bes available appointees possible to carry out the success of his father's Administration.

In the speculation over appointments, the only outcome which seems to come within the scope of a definite forecast at present is that the position of United States Marshall will go to a Legion man and that the immigration post will go to a woman.

## DENY ANY WELFARE SCANDAL

Reports Branded by Officials as Not Worth Notice

### ADMITS WELFARE MEN TO BE QUIZZED

Acting Mayor McGrath admitted last night that Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the board of overseers of the public welfare, and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board, have been requested to appear at City Hall Tuesday afternoon to "explain a number of specific cases in which there seems cause for suspicion."

Reports emanated from City Hall yesterday that the biggest welfare scandal in the history of the city, with indications of alleged irregularities involving nearly \$2,000,000 of an annual \$12,000,000 expended to the needy, was about to break, and then were emphatically denied last night by both city officials and members of the Public Welfare Department.

### HINT ACTION IMMINENT

The reports followed in the wake of the news that officials of the welfare department have been summoned to the Mayor's office for a meeting at 2 o'clock Tuesday, at which time Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath and other high officials will demand of the welfare department an explanation of alleged discrepancies said to have been discovered in the paying of welfare funds.

According to the reports, hundreds of cases of payment of money to recipients for whom the welfare department is alleged to have no addresses were among the cases to be investigated. The reports also declared that money was being paid to persons represented on the records with fictitious names, that in many cases persons were signing the payroll with crosses while able to write and read, and that hundreds of cases were found in which welfare aid recipients were found not to be living at the addresses set opposite their names.

Quick and emphatic to deny these reports were Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, and William H.

Taylor, Boston attorney and a member of the Welfare Board for the past five years. Both branded the reports as "ridiculous and without foundation of fact."

According to Taylor, the welfare department "is not only the most investigated department in the city, but also one of the best regulated in the entire country." He pointed out that the same charges have been made before, only to fall flat after a thorough investigation.

NERALD 7/9/33

# ACTING MAYOR ORDERS ACTION, NOT EXCUSES

Will Insist on Revised Administration to Save \$50,000 Weekly

## SAYS IMMEDIATE REFORM NECESSARY

Will Reveal Irregularity, Laxity to Department Officials Tuesday

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, who will confront officials of the public welfare department Tuesday with proof of widespread laxity and irregularity in the disbursement of welfare funds, will insist on the adoption of a new system of administration in the department which will definitely wipe out fraud in the monthly distribution of \$1,000,000.

This was learned last night although McGrath himself still kept silence, in spite of pleas of overseers of public welfare for information about the character of the charges which they will face Tuesday.

The acting mayor is determined to brook no opposition in his drive to force the welfare department to maintain records of the names and addresses of 31,000 recipients of aid on every occasion that they receive money from the city treasury.

### IMMEDIATE ACTION

Although an embarrassing situation, due to the absence of Mayor Curley in Europe, has been forced by revelations indicating that proper management of the welfare department will reduce expenditures at least \$50,000 weekly, McGrath is reported to take the stand that the protection of the taxpayers is of such importance that immediate and drastic action is necessary to curb the mounting costs of welfare.

Despite a substantial increase in employment, which has lessened the demand on welfare departments in practically every other city, there was a noticeable increase in the number of beneficiaries of public funds in Boston, last week. Coming after a secret investigation of recipients picked at random from a large list of suspicious cases had disclosed proof of fraud, the increase in demands on the department added to the conviction of city officials that a complete overhauling of the welfare business is unavoidable.

Acting Mayor McGrath is said to hold the opinion that no proper check on the unsalaried board of 12 overseers or their salaried subordinates can ever be made unless they are compelled to inaugurate efficient and business methods in the disbursement of money.

Explanations and excuses which have prevented the introduction of an efficient administrative system in the department during the numerous demands for betterment in the past two years will not be accepted yesterday, he accepted by McGrath.

He was said to be prepared to tell the overseers and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy that he will accept nothing except explanations of allegedly irregular expenditures of public funds and that no such excuse, as a shortage of clerical help, will be recognized.

It was learned yesterday that McGrath is prepared to level his criticism at officials of private welfare organizations if they undertake to inject themselves into the situation which has been created by his vigorous demand for 13 months for the records of relief disbursements.

McGrath has learned that recipients of aid over long periods who claimed to live at certain addresses are not known to owners or occupants of the buildings listed; that visitors who have been told that the addresses were fraudulent have not forced the erasure of the recipients from the welfare rolls and that no action has apparently been taken to stop such cases of fraud.

### "ILLITERATES" READ AND WRITE

He is also interested in learning from the overseers and Secretary McCarthy why 15 per cent. of the reputed illiterates, supposedly unable to sign their names to receipts of aid, can both read and write.

He also has information that a great many recipients of aid enjoy motoring in pleasure cars which are registered in their own names. He will ask the overseers, it was said yesterday, to explain why he knows these facts and their high-salaried assistants appear to be ignorant of them.

McGrath's immediate objective, as revealed yesterday, is to force in the welfare department a new system by which it will be possible to check within a minute every payment made to a recipient.

He plans to compel every receiver of money from the welfare department to sign a name and address every time that money is received.

By such a system if a recipient moved every week the current address would be listed in the welfare department.

The inquiry into recipients of aid

made at the direction of McGrath is based on far more convincing information than was the investigation of the police department a year ago, when there was constant friction with welfare officials and daily charges of refusal to co-operate with the police.

The police were handed some names of recipients selected in the welfare department. Under McGrath's direction cases have been investigated and the welfare officials will not know until Tuesday the facts which they will be asked to disprove or explain.

McGrath received many messages of congratulation yesterday from taxpayers who assured him that a bona fide investigation of the welfare department will meet with popular favor. He also talked with overseers of public welfare, who had denied that irregularities could exist in the department. They appealed for enlightenment about the facts which have been uncovered, but McGrath declined their requests.

"I am not in a position," said McGrath, "to make any comment on this situation. It would be obviously unfair for me to make any charges until representatives of the welfare department are given opportunity to explain certain facts. It is possible that they can make explanations. I must confess, however, that there are facts in my possession which are at least highly suspicious. I appreciate that the people of Boston are entitled to know facts about any municipal department, but in fairness to those who are responsible for the management of the welfare department I must withhold any statement until after the Tuesday conference."

HERALD 7/9/33

# Strained Relations of Ely with Prosecutor May Avert Decapitations in Boston Police

By W. E. MULLINS

If Dist.-Atty. Foley and Gov. Ely were bound by ties of friendship, or even of politics, Police Commissioner Hultman undeniably now would be in grave danger of having his official head chopped off. The only thing the district attorney and the Governor have in common, however, is that both are Democrats.

At the outset of Gov. Ely's first term his relations with the district attorney were on a friendly basis, but they had some differences of opinion with respect to the distribution of patronage and the gulf between them widened gradually until the Suffolk county grand jury which sat during the first six months of last year gave the chief executive some embarrassing moments.

This particular grand jury was being handled by Asst. Dist.-Atty. Murphy and during the course of its deliberations just prior to its adjournment it sent repeated invitations to the Governor to appear at the court house for examination with respect to his knowledge of the affairs of the closed Industrial Bank and Trust Company.

Whether rightly or wrongly, a district attorney is supposed to have considerable influence with a grand jury. Technically, the grand jury is a law unto itself and there were reports that this particular grand jury could not be controlled by Dist.-Atty. Foley.

Mr. Ely was a highly successful district attorney himself and his private opinion was that he should not have been subjected to the embarrassment of having the clerk of the court make several personal visits to the State House to deliver directly to the Governor invitations to appear before the grand jury.

This brief background gives one some idea of the low down on the high-ups in the current police department difficulties. For years now the Democrats of Boston have been eager to have control of the city's police department restored to the mayor and under ordinary conditions Gov. Ely would have at least some excuse for training his guns on the Hultman administration and for asking the Legislature to give City Hall full control over the police department.

The Governor is cordial to Mr. Foley and greets him on a friendly enough basis, but he also simulated friendship for Mayor Curley even on occasions when every one in the commonwealth knew that he was seething with resentment at the mayor's political activities.

## PROCEEDING CAUTIOUSLY

Mr. Ely is proceeding cautiously in directing his personal investigation of the police department. He regards Mr. Hultman as being personally honest, although he probably is not too greatly impressed with his ability to administer the department. The situation will unfold gradually; but it will not be surprising if the Governor's investigation is broadened to extend beyond the police department and into the administration of the district attorney's office.

Getting back to the political relations between the Governor and the district attorney, their first disagreement came when Mr. Ely refused Mr. Foley's request that Joseph Cleary be appointed to the position of clerk of the juvenile court. A pardon in an arson case subsequently disturbed the district attorney, but he later became openly critical of the Governor when a commutation of sentence was granted to Leong Sang, who had been sentenced to the electric chair in Suffolk county.

These relatively minor incidents were followed by the activities of the Suffolk county grand jury more than one year ago which came to a climax when the Governor went to the Democratic national convention at Chicago after completely ignoring the repeated requests to appear before the jurors for examination.

Lt. Gillis and Capt. Anderson are mere pawns in what is actually a quarrel between Mr. Foley and Mr. Hultman. What the Governor now proposes to have is an investigation that will disclose whether it is the police department or the district attorney's office which has been incompetent. The records the Governor has requested from the police department contain the real secret accounts of the activities of gangsters who have been arrested and not put in jail.

The bureau of criminal investigation was nearly punch drunk 10 days ago from the disclosures of the grand jury report; but a speedy recovery was staged when several of its members were lucky enough to capture Steve Gustin in New York. That break was comparable in some respects to the favorable reaction to the reorganized state police patrol when Commissioner Needham returned Peggy McMath to her parents, obtained possession of the ransom money and apprehended the little girl's kidnapper.

## FULLER AND HULTMAN

It is not unlikely that the Hultman administration will creep into politics from now on, not only in the approaching mayoralty campaign but later. It may be recalled that former Gov. Allen's severest critic when he appointed Mr. Hultman to be police commissioner was former Gov. Fuller. On that occasion Mr. Fuller released one of his characteristically blistering statements.

This current situation furnishes another example of the futility of divorcing the police from politics. The police almost invariably are vulnerable. Any alert citizen knows that luxurious speakeasies are openly operating in this city, but there has been no loud public protest against them. The tendency has been to wink at their operations until prohibition is repealed.

The open violation of the liquor laws cannot be condoned because that would be nullification, but it's not so many years ago, when the clamor against prohibition was not so loud as it subsequently was, that Gen. Smedley Butler attempted to clean up Philadelphia. The complete failure of that experiment makes law enforcement agencies wary of trying to reform the people.

One of the important phases of this present controversy is the wide difference of opinion between Gov. Ely and Dist.-Atty. Foley with respect to the secrecy of the grand jury's minutes. The Governor maintains that the grand

jury had no real jurisdiction in this instance and accordingly was acting unofficially. The district attorney recognizes the procedure as having the full force of the return of an indictment.

Some years ago during Dist.-Atty. Pelletier's administration a situation similar in some respects arose. A grand jury investigated the activities of a public administrator. It failed to return an indictment or a no bill. It did return a report in which the administrator was sharply criticised; but a superior court justice took possession of the report, impounded it and informed the grand jurors that they had overstepped their authority.

HERALD

7/9/33

# Foley-Hultman Clash Has Raised the Question Whether Grand Juries Might Not Be Abolished

By ROBERT CHOATE

One of the disturbing things about the present controversy between the district attorney's office and that of the police commissioner of the city of Boston is that both officials are able to wield enormous undercover and secret forces with which to whack each other over the head.

There is a good deal of doubt in editorial offices as to the public's real interest in the latest duel of words between the forces of Mayor Curley and the police commissioner. But any newspaper, if it is worth its salt, will scent in the exchanges that have been going on the brewing of a fine political and official row which it is in duty bound to follow from day to day although the actual movement of events may be slow.

To a good many people it will seem as if the whole row is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. There is no really significant fact which sufficiently damns either the police department or the district attorney's office but there is a general atmosphere about both which might be distinctly improved. The layman, or the reporter for that matter, cannot be expected to lay his finger directly on the sore spot and say that this, that or the other thing is the matter. All the public knows, or cares about, is that there is a slightly unpleasant odor in the air and if both Mr. Foley and Mr. Hultman took their coats off, rolled up their sleeves and got to work in earnest both departments of our law enforcing structure would be better off.

#### LARGELY A FAMILY FIGHT

By offering this gratuitous advice I do not intend to protrude my head in the direction of the cudgels which both Mr. Hultman and Mr. Foley are now waving at each other. Theirs is largely a family fight of the Curley administration and as such has a certain privileged status. The danger of intruding in a family skittle is that both parties are apt to forget their own quarrels and concentrate on the intruder. Therefore I pray that Mr. Foley will not have his grand jury indict me or that Mr. Hultman will not turn the forces of his much discussed bureau of criminal investigation on my trail.

Gov. Ely brought out into the open an angle of the heated discussion, started by the report of Mr. Foley's grand jury, for which Mr. Hultman might well give thanks. That is that the grand jury has no function as an investigating body and that it might very well stick to what is its legitimate business.

There has been going on openly among our more sober jurists and

prominent lawyers a serious discussion of whether or not it would be better to abolish our grand juries altogether. In legal circles they are regarded nothing more than the tool of the reigning district attorney and an expensive system at that. Many judges and many lawyers, if they had a little more confidence in the calibre of men who are elected to the district attorney's office, would much prefer to revert to the English system where the magistrate, or in this case the district attorney, returns an information against those parties against whom he would be prepared to proceed.

#### CRITICISM TO BE MET

Even in advancing such a suggestion our legal friends are prepared to meet the criticism that this procedure would place too much authority in the hands of the prosecuting agent. They are ready to admit this, but counter that inasmuch as the grand juries are commonly wholly in the hands of the district attorneys there would not be much difference in the long run. There is, of course, the brake which a good jury with an intelligent foreman can apply to any reckless district attorney but there is also the counterpart of this where a good district attorney may not be able to apply the brakes to a rotten grand jury.

No estimates have been made, so far as I know, of what would be the annual saving to the commonwealth if grand juries were abolished; but it would run into the millions of dollars. The chances are that if grand juries were abolished the calibre of our district attorneys would improve. The public would insist on the character and integrity of the men it honored to elect. This statement does not seem far-fetched when we survey the counties of Massachusetts and see the men who now hold office. Practically without exception they are men of the finest type who could be relied upon to perform their duties in a highly satisfactory manner if they had no grand juries to present their cases to, but acted solely on their own information.

Here in Suffolk county we have seen many accusations hurled at the police department and it has seemed as if all of them had been brushed aside with the excuse that there were or are political motives behind the attack. But in each case, it has seemed to me, there has been enough justification in the criticism to warrant the police department to shake itself up a bit and look itself over in some endeavor at improvement.

A man who has successively held many high and important public positions runs the danger of thinking that he has some God-given gift at public

administration. That may be so. But there is also the chance that in being appointed to office he filled the bill at the moment, soiled a multitude of political difficulties, and can no more than the rest of us afford to rest on his laurels. A little self-review of himself and his policies, his aides and lieutenants, might possibly do him some good, just as it would any other man who holds an executive office.

#### PUBLIC BEWILDERED

So far as the district attorney's office is concerned there is undoubtedly a good deal of public bewilderment at the number of times a gangster and racketeer can be brought up for prosecution and be let off scot free somewhere along the line. It is at this stage that the name calling between the police department and the district attorney's office always begins. The police claim—and the records seem to prove it—that they bring in the offenders time and again and they somehow manage to go free. This situation holds true all over the country and is not peculiar to Massachusetts or Suffolk county. When an investigation is made by impartial bodies the finding invariably seems to be confusingly intertwined with politicians, tricky lawyers, and the standard of efficiency of prosecuting officers.

After all, what the public is interested in today is that Mr. Hultman's police department should bring in the gangsters and that Mr. Foley's office should prosecute them in such fashion that they will be put in retirement for a number of years. If the controversy is merely politics it is a disappointing start to the mayoralty campaign.

## Post WELFARE WORK FACING CHANGE

### Hub's Private Charities System May Be Altered

While city officials yesterday preserved silence on the subject of the approaching investigation into alleged irregularities connected with the expenditures of the \$12,000,000 city welfare budget, members of the board said they welcomed the inquiry and predicted that, like others that have preceded it, it would fall flat.

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, while intimating that he had sufficient information to warrant an inquiry, said yesterday that he could not in fairness reveal the exact nature of the reports he has received.

From other sources it was revealed that Acting-Mayor McGrath may seek to have the city maintain a central application bureau, now conducted by private charitable enterprises, in order to prevent duplication in welfare work. The private charities at present disburse about \$4,000,000 annually, or about one-third spent by the city.

Gh 0813 7/9/33

# POLITICS AND POLITICIANS

By JOHN D. MERRILL

Nothing has been heard from Ex-Gov Alvan T. Fuller since he stated a few weeks ago that he would be a candidate against Lieut Gov Gaspar G. Bacon for the Republican nomination for Governor of Massachusetts. Some politicians think Mr Fuller should not be taken too seriously—that he was merely having a little fun with the Republican leaders—but others are confident that he meant what he said and that he will carry on an active campaign when the proper time comes.

Mr Fuller is probably not unmindful of the fact that if he becomes the Republican candidate for Governor of Massachusetts and is elected in November, 1934, he will probably be seriously considered as a candidate for the Republican nomination for President or Vice President in 1936. Not many available candidates for those nominations are now in sight. Perhaps Mr Hoover may want to run again. If he does, most of the so-called organization Republicans will be likely to oppose him; they never cared for him, and will try hard to prevent him from coming back into public life.

The number of Republican Governors who might expect promotion is very small and few are well known. Mr Fuller's name is already familiar beyond the boundaries of Massachusetts because of his connection with the Sacco-Vanzetti case, and if he should be fortunate enough to "redeem" Massachusetts from the Democrats in 1934 he would inevitably be among those discussed as possible candidates on the Nation ticket of the Republican party two years later.

It is true that other Republicans have in mind a similar prospect in their own horoscope. Former United States Senator James W. Wadsworth of New York is ambitious in politics, and, as his attitude on prohibition was responsible for his defeat for reelection a few years ago, his friends among the wets are very eager to have him "vindicated." Mr Wadsworth may be the Republican nominee for Governor of New York in 1934, and if he defeats Gov Lehman, who will doubtless be a candidate for reelection, Mr Wadsworth will at once become one of the leading Republican candidates for President. Inasmuch as Gov Ely will not be a candidate for another term in Massachusetts, it seems probable that the Republicans will have a better chance of carrying this State than of carrying New York. Consequently the Republican nomination for Governor here in 1934 may lead to higher things, especially if Mr Fuller is the successful candidate.

## For Mayor of Boston

The active politicians are talking more or less about the coming election of a Mayor of Boston to succeed James

M. Curley, but the public generally has not yet become greatly interested in the subject. Theoretically and legally the municipal election in this city is nonpartisan, but the Democrats have such a large majority of the voters that they feel a member of their party should be Mayor. One or two groups in the Democratic ranks are now trying to bring about an agreement on some candidate, but the effort has not been very successful and may not be in the future. It looks as though four or five might run at the polls.

If the Democrats could consolidate their votes on one candidate he would surely be elected, and perhaps if two Democrats were in the field one would be successful; but, if the votes of that party are divided among three or four candidates, Ex-Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols, who is a Republican when party lines are drawn, may again slip in as he did a few years ago. For, although Mr Nichols is a registered Republican, he can count on the support of a large number of Democrats especially among the city employees, many of whom have a good word for him and hope to see him in City Hall again. But Mr Nichols will apparently be handicapped if the Good Government Association indorses someone else, for example, Frederick W. Mansfield, who had the backing of that organization four years ago.

The rumor persists that Congressman John W. McCormack of South Boston may be persuaded to run for Mayor, but his closest friends think he is not yet ready to retire from Congress; his term of service in Washington has not been very long, but he has risen to prominence there and may reasonably expect to extend his reputation and influence. It is believed that he will prefer to stay in Congress for the present.

Within the past few days there have been reports that Congressman John J. Douglass of East Boston may be brought out as a Mayoralty candidate on whom the Democrats can unite. It is assumed that Mr Douglass will not run again for Congress, and his friends say he might be glad to end his public career with a term or two in the Mayor's chair. One thing is certain: if the Democratic leaders are not wholly satisfied with any of the candidates now in the field, and want to unite the party on some other man, they cannot succeed until they have a candidate of their own to offer. The general belief is, however, that Dist Atty William J. Foley, Ex-Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, Frederick W. Mansfield, and probably City Councilor Joseph McGrath, now acting Mayor, will remain in the fight.

## The Legislature

Some people think the Massachusetts Legislature will be able to complete its business and be ready for

prorogation at the end of this week, but a more conservative view is that the session will continue until next week and possibly even longer. Two important matters must be disposed of before the General Court can finally adjourn: one is legislation to determine how the State can best take advantage of the important relief acts recently put on the statute books in Washington, and the other is a law for the conduct of the liquor business in this State if and when the 18th Amendment to the Federal Constitution is repealed. The Committee on Ways and Means is looking after the former subject, but prospect for the liquor legislation is uncertain.

Gov Ely believes the Legislature of 1933 should pass adequate laws covering the sale and distribution of what is commonly called hard liquor, so that the machinery may be ready for operation if need arises before the next Legislature comes in. Most of the members of the General Court are disposed to think there will be plenty of time for the passage of the proposed act between next January and the date when the repeal of the 18th Amendment can be brought about. The Senators and Representatives are now entering on their seventh month of service; they are tired, sometimes irritable, and desirous of going home. So their natural inclination is to postpone the liquor legislation until next year.

If the Governor insists, he can have his way; for the Legislature cannot be prorogued without action on his part, and he can keep the members in session until they accede to his wishes. It is highly improbable, however, that the difference of opinion on this matter will be serious; the relations between Gov Ely and the Senate and House have been unusually friendly in spite of the fact that the majority in each branch is made up of Republicans, while the Governor is a Democrat.

It should not be a very serious task to put through liquor legislation. The special commission of which Bentley W. Warren was chairman proposed a plan for handling the traffic in hard liquors, and that scheme, just as it was suggested or with suitable changes, could be adopted, at least on trial. This subject matter, however, is one in which many people are keenly interested, for a variety of reasons, and the legislation will proceed slowly if it is taken up now. That prospect is not pleasing to the Senators and Representatives.

Globe

7/9/33

## WELFARE BOARD AGAIN ON CARPET

McGrath Calls Meeting  
Tuesday on Methods

Acting Mayor Protests Policy  
of Signing for Aid Now Used

Boston's Public Welfare Department is scheduled for another searching scrutiny. As a result of some irregularities which have been revealed by clerical workers who have been going over public welfare cards and cases in City Hall for the past eight months, Chairman Simon Hecht of the Overseers, Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of that department, Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox and City Auditor Rupert Carven will confer with Acting Mayor McGrath in the Mayor's office Tuesday afternoon.

A number of public welfare case cards, it is said, are missing. Under the present system no record is kept of the weekly address of welfare recipients. A sixth of the money given out by the paymaster to welfare aid cases each week is given with signatures marked by the "mark *cross*" method, and recipients are not compelled to sign their names, but "must" sign the name of the original welfare beneficiary.

### Names of Dead on Rolls

In other words, it was learned in the Mayor's office yesterday that if John Smith received welfare aid in 1916 and died in 1920, that if his wife, son or daughter received welfare aid after that, the name of the dead man is still carried on the rolls and dead man's signature is affixed by his successor. Information ordered to be delivered by the Mayor and City Council by the Welfare Department more than a year ago, it was stated, has never been furnished; and McGrath, who fought in the Council for complete and weekly records of welfare recipients, is now determined to find out, he says, just what is what in the Welfare Department.

The first reform upon which he will insist at the conference Tuesday, he declares, is that the paymaster secure the signature of the person who receives the money. If the son, wife, daughter or agent of a welfare recipient calls for the money, that person will sign his name and his present address to a receipt for it.

### To Present Data Tuesday

The Acting Mayor says he has information concerning the present public welfare system and public welfare irregularities which will be presented to the chairman of the overseers and the secretary Tuesday. He declared yesterday that it is not fair to discuss them until he has a chance to get the other side of the story.

Public welfare recipients have been taking about \$50,000 per week of the city's money, it was said, and until

some time ago there was never a checkup on those receiving public welfare and soldiers' aid. Then numerous cases were discovered where people were receiving both. At McGrath's direction the city bureau of statistics separated all cases into wards and precincts and one of the claimed disclosures is that welfare money is being doled out in the wealthy precincts of the Back Bay and that there is not a single precinct in the city where welfare aid is not being given.

Post 7/10/33

## GRANDSON FOR JOHN J. CURLEY

Child Born to B. C. Grid  
Star and Wife

John J. Curley, brother of Mayor Curley, wore a broad and happy smile last night at the birth of his first grandson, born yesterday to his daughter Margaret, wife of Charles F. Murphy, former Boston College football star, at the Curley home, 52 Winthrop street, Roxbury.

It was his second experience as a grandfather but his first in getting a grandson. Incidentally the new arrival, who may be a future gridiron star, is a grandnephew of Mayor Curley.

## SEES FRAUD IN WELFARE AID

McGrath to Give Board Specific Cases

The overseers of public welfare will have placed before them by Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath tomorrow a list of specific welfare cases in which investigation has shown what appears to be fraud, and will be asked to explain each case, it was learned last night. Based on the most recent police listing, Acting Mayor McGrath has a list of names of people who are drawing welfare money, but whose names cannot be found on the police lists.

Frank A. Goodwin, chairman of the finance commission, declared last night that the system of welfare administration is wide open to fraud. He recalled an investigation by the finance commission a year ago, in which recommendations were made for a single head of the welfare department, and several changes in the method of administration.

AMERICAN

## 100 NAMES FORGED ON ELECTION LISTS

Showdown Tomorrow

Before McGrath  
in City Hall

An investigation of wholesale election frauds in Boston appeared today to be a likely outcome of Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath's secret probe of public welfare waste, amounting to more than \$2,000,000 a year.

In the course of his investigation of dole irregularities, it was learned, McGrath found that 100 foreign-born citizens in the North End and East Boston were listed in welfare department records as unable to sign their own names.

These same men were listed as voters on the official lists, indicating that if the welfare records are correct somebody else registered as voters in their names.

Election department officials are awaiting the outcome of tomorrow's hearing in McGrath's office to determine their course of action.

### SHOWDOWN TOMORROW

At 2 p. m. tomorrow McGrath will have before him Chairman Simon E. Hecht, of the board of overseers of the public welfare; Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, who is also a member of the board of overseers, and Walter V. McCarthy, the secretary.

The board met in secret session today to discuss the situation. It was said unofficially that all possible co-operation would be given McGrath, so that Federal funds would not be withheld as a result of exposed conditions.

McGrath, late last week, charged the overseers with gross irregularities in the administration of the city's welfare funds.

It was learned today that this laxity, if proved, may cost Boston a share of the funds appropriated for relief by the federal Government.

*met RECOR*

yesterday that the names of dead men and women do appear on the welfare records but pointed out that they were there merely as a matter of record.

These and other angles of the welfare probe will come under consideration tomorrow afternoon when Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath meets with the overseers of the department, City Auditor Rupert S. Carven and Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, in the mayor's office.

## *W E R A L D* WELFARE LAXITY MAY LOSE CITY FEDERAL FUNDS

State Officials Declare Boston Must Clean up Irregularities

### QUICK CORRECTION SEEN ONLY HOPE

Ely Prepared to Seek Remedial Action if Finding Warrants

State officials, expressing great interest last night in Acting Mayor McGrath's charges of widespread laxity and irregularity in the disbursement of Boston's welfare funds, declared that if his allegations are borne out and are not immediately corrected, the city may lose its proportional share of \$2,000,000 from the federal government.

"The city must show that distribution of public relief in Boston is not tainted by fraud, graft and laxity or it will have great difficulty in getting federal funds," said one state official last night.

#### REMEDIAL ACTION

It also was learned that if McGrath exposes conditions that call for remedial action either by the Legislature or the city government, Gov. Ely is prepared to co-operate. The Governor could ask the Legislature for the enactment, as an emergency measure, of a bill establishing a salaried commissioner of public welfare and two deputy commissioners to replace the unsalaried board of 12 overseers.

McGrath will confront officials of the public welfare department on Tuesday with proof of irregularities, and will charge that proper administration of the department will reduce expenditures at least \$50,000 weekly.

The acting mayor is said to have been told that as long as suspicion of irregularity in the management of the public welfare department exists there distribution which would assure Boston taxpayers of relief.

The acting mayor, anxious to obtain this financial aid partly because of the favorable effect it will have on the 1933 tax rate, is prepared to take drastic action in regard to the disbursement of relief funds in order that he may be in a position to plead the case of the city as an applicant for an immediate allotment of federal funds.

Last year the Legislature rejected a bill, which had the indorsement of Mayor Curley and the finance commission, to establish a salaried commissioner of public welfare.

Lobbying tactics which were successfully employed last year to kill the bill were repeated this year. The presence at the State House of a high salaried executive of the welfare department brought the accusation from Mayor Curley that he attempted to defeat the bill.

#### ELY FAVORS CHANGE

It is reported that Gov. Ely, who has not until recently been conversant with welfare disbursements in Boston, other than that the city was spending more than \$1,000,000 monthly, now looks with favor on the idea of replacing the overseers with salaried officials who can be held to strict accountability for the administration of the department.

Action at the State House will depend largely on the revelations which will be made public following a conference tomorrow afternoon at which Acting Mayor McGrath, Corporation Counsel Silverman, City Clerk Doyle and City Auditor Carven will meet Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department.

The facts which the representatives of the welfare department will be asked to explain are being carefully guarded by Acting Mayor McGrath, who has resorted to unusual precaution to make certain that he does not lose custody of the records.

#### STATE FUND INCREASED

\$1,500,000 Additional Due from Federal Government

About \$1,500,000 additional will be given the state of Massachusetts by the federal government for public welfare under the "\$1 for \$3" provisions of a law passed by Congress. It was announced yesterday by Edward H. Fenton of Winthrop, assistant director of the division of accounts of the state department of taxation, on his return from Washington yesterday.

Mr. Fenton took certified copies of expenditures to Washington which indicated that for the first quarter of the year Massachusetts should receive a credit of \$3,500,000. Several weeks ago the federal government sent an advance payment of \$2,000,000 and asked that certain papers be presented so that the entire sum could be computed.

The entire sum is given outright to the state, which will determine how it shall be distributed. Joseph Bartlett, chairman of the emergency finance board of the state, was in Washington yesterday at a conference at which the method of distribution was determined. Boston expects a large part of the money because the welfare expenditures of the city have been heavy. Only certain welfare expenditures will be credited, and the money obtained from the federal government must be spent for welfare. New Hampshire has construed this to mean employment and is spending its allotment in reforestation work to provide work for men.

*Ghobie 7/10/33*

## NEW ANGLE TO WELFARE STUDY

Crosses Made for Names of 100 on Voting List

The checkup of the activities of the Public Welfare Department of the city took on a new aspect today when it was indicated that more than 100 names of aid recipients who sign their names to the weekly welfare roll by marking a cross are on the voting list.

It was pointed out in the Mayor's office that if the recipient is on the voting list, the registration requirement is that he be able to read and write and that his ability to read and write is tested at the time his name goes on the voting list.

The question now arises as to how the "mark cross" recipients came to be on voting lists if they cannot sign their own names; or if they can sign their own names, why they mark crosses on the city welfare roll.

It is now not unlikely that the election department will be asked to explain how these names came to be on their rolls, since the Welfare Department indicates that they cannot sign their own names.

Acting Mayor McGrath is prepared to present irregularities in welfare cases tomorrow afternoon to Chairman Simon Hecht of the Board of Overseers and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the Welfare Department. The irregularities have turned up in the clerical investigation at City Hall and in the separation of welfare cases into wards and precincts.

It is possible, according to the acting Mayor, that the Welfare Department may be right in many of these cases and that the irregularities may be satisfactorily explained, but it is also possible, he said, that among them are some discrepancies which will bear closer scrutiny and may reveal that much of the city money is not being expended for welfare relief and to alleviate worthy cases.

Present at the conference tomorrow afternoon will be Chairman Hecht and Secretary McCarthy, Acting Mayor McGrath, Corporation Counsel Silverman, City Clerk Doyle and City Auditor Carven.

If the explanation of Hecht and McCarthy concerning the welfare irregularities is not satisfactory tomorrow afternoon, it is possible that Auditor Carven, who has the authority, may refuse to sign the weekly welfare roll and that no disbursements will be made until it is shown that the roll is authentic.

AMERICAN 7/10/33

## The Welfare Racket

It Should Be Ended Promptly

Acting Mayor McGrath should display all the energy and ability at his command to end the notorious racketeering of charity.

There have been altogether too many scandals already.

We have seen city welfare funds paid out to non-residents of Boston.

We have seen charity funds paid to cheap chiselers who owned real estate and had money in the bank.

We have seen the funds go to fakers with fictitious addresses.

We have seen the charity payments made to young, nattily-dressed loafers who drove up to City Hall in their sporty roadsters.

We have heard reports of non-residents who have come into the city, rented a room in a lodging house for a week and thus establish a Boston address that they might chisel into the welfare funds.

All these appear to be minor incidents. But they are important and voluminous in the aggregate, so much so that \$2,000,000 a year is estimated to have been distributed to the chiselers, fakers and grafters.

The city of Boston has spent the extraordinary sum of \$12,000,000 a year for public welfare.

This money comes out of the honest and industrious taxpayers. It is to them a burden. It is a burden that most of them were willing to accept readily in order that the poor and decent fellow citizens might have food and clothing and shelter for themselves and their families.

The generosity of these good people should not be abused. The fine motive of charity should not be degenerated into a license for petty thieving and grafting. These people are entitled to have every dollar of their contribution expended honestly and discriminately.

We have been through hard times together that should have brought out the noblest instincts of man.

Decent people dislike to apply for the dole. They prefer to earn their income by useful labor.

We have seen our good people accept public welfare funds reluctantly. We have seen hundreds of them recently insist that their names be taken from the charity list the minute they found remunerative employment.

We should protect the generosity of our taxpayers.

We should protect the reputation of our decent men and women who have been obliged to accept charity.

Mr. McGrath should expose the chiselers and fakers.

Good people will thank him for it because it is in the line of the faithful public service they expect of him.

RECORD

## Aid Visitors Under Fire in Probe



Acting-Mayor Jos. McGrath

A special probe into the activities of five visitors for the public welfare department and their dismissal if charges against them are proved true, were foreshadowed yesterday by Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath as part of his sweeping investigation of widespread laxity and irregularity in the disbursement of welfare funds.

On Tuesday, when McGrath will air the other welfare charges before officials of the board, he will also demand a thorough check up on complaints against five of the 60 odd visitors employed.

This checkup will be carried out by investigators of the city law department. If the charges are found to be true, McGrath will order a public hearing before the Board of Overseers.

Some of the visitors are said to be temperamentally unfit for their work and to have had their own sense of self importance swollen by the fact they practically hold the power of life and death over the needy.

There are charges of deliberate persecution of welfare seekers, of visitors arbitrarily giving the needy smaller sums than those to which they are entitled, and of visitors deliberately assigning men unfit for heavy work to arduous tasks with the public works department.

Already Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke has made many complaints that physically unfit men have been assigned to pick and shovel work against his wishes.

In several cases, welfare recipients, it is said, have been forced to beg local political leaders to intercede to save them from alleged persecution. The visitors' weekly wage averages about \$40 a week.

Sec. Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare board, touching on another angle of the investigation, admitted

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7/11/33

# WILL OPEN WELFARE QUIZ TODAY

## Officials to Be Asked to Explain 20 to 30 Suspicious Cases

Some 20 to 30 specific cases of alleged glaring irregularities in the distribution of Boston's \$12,000,000 in annual financial aid for the needy will be put up to public welfare officials in the Mayor's office at City Hall this afternoon.

### FOR RIGID CHECK

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, after Chairman Simon E. Hecht and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare board have been given opportunity to explain them, will then demand that every recipient of city money be required to sign his own name, and set down his current address, every week, so prompt check can be made on the department's distribution of funds.

Failing to get the welfare board's agreement to meet this requirement, Acting Mayor McGrath will instruct the city auditor, Rupert S. Carven, to withhold his approval on all drafts for welfare funds, warning him that he will be held accountable for every cent disbursed which cannot be fully accounted for afterwards.

### Suspicious Circumstances

This was learned at City Hall last night, as the acting mayor, on the eve of the meeting, issued a five-point statement directly on the conference.

At the same time it was ascertained that the 20 or 30 cases to be put up to welfare officials will cover the whole ground of the irregularities being investigated. They involve alleged signing for welfare money by recipients who cannot read and write, but whose names are on the Boston voting lists, where reading and the signing of their names is a requirement for such registration.

### Hint of Registration Scandal

Hint of a scandal in the registration of illiterate voters in East Boston and the North End, possibly entailing an investigation by the election department, is included in the programme. Either illegal registration of voters has taken place, or money is being paid to other

than the proper individuals recorded, it was stated on reliable authority.

McGrath's five-point statement on the inquiry into alleged irregularities in the distribution of welfare money, was as follows:

"Primarily, it is a God-given duty to provide properly for our poor," he said.

"2—Each fraudulent welfare recipient lessens the allotment to the deserving family.

"3—Practically every department of our city has reduced its expenditure excepting public welfare, so that increased taxes on real estate can be directly charged to this department.

"4—To protect thousands of non-income producing properties, mostly represented by homes, from being seized by the city because of the owners' inability to pay excessive taxes, we must prevent the welfare payments to unworthy recipients.

### 100 Names Signed With Cross

"5—Some 18,500 city and county employees have had their purchasing power curtailed by a salary decrease caused almost entirely by increased welfare payments. It is safe to say that not one of these donors objects to contributing to a worthy family, but they are unanimous in their objection to the welfare 'faker.'

At least 100 names signed with a cross on the welfare lists, indicating the recipient cannot write his own signature, have been found on the voting lists, it was stated at City Hall yesterday. These come almost wholly from Wards 1 and 3, or from East Boston and the North End.

## AT CITY HALL TODAY

There is a widespread suspicion that Boston has spent and still spends an unjustifiably large amount for unemployment relief; that the welfare department is not conducted economically; that the system in vogue is so loose and so carelessly administered that it is an invitation to waste; that fraud is practised by many beneficiaries; that there is an absence of careful checking up which would weed out the unworthy applicants; that the effort to reduce the number of chronic cases is not so intelligent or so vigorous as it should be.

Figures from other cities indicate that we have been very liberal. The latest tabulation from the overseers does not show that decline in disbursements which was to be expected in view of the decrease in unemployment.

The investigations made independently and at random by Corporation Counsel Silverman indicate superficially a considerable degree of laxness, to put it mildly. The procedure in regard to the signatures of recipients and the addresses of beneficiaries is difficult to justify. It would appear that persons who work for the city are held to more rigid requirements before receiving their salaries and wages than many persons who do nothing for what they get. In short, Boston would appear to be letting its heart run away with its head.

The meeting at City Hall today has been called at the request of the corporation counsel, whose duty it is to protect the treasury. The statements by Acting Mayor McGrath certainly call for explanation, and the absence of the mayor should not be allowed to interfere with the inquiry.

HERALD 7/11/33

Post

# McGRATH PREPARED TO HOLD UP FURTHER RELIEF PAYMENTS

Will Insist on Right Name  
And Current Address of  
Each Recipient

## TO DEMAND RECORDS IN 20 GLARING CASES

Finds Persons Long Dead  
Still on Rolls—Issues  
Strong Statement

By JAMES GOGGIN

Failure by officials of the public welfare department today to disprove satisfactorily specific evidence disclosing irregularity, laxity and fraud in the disbursement of public aid will move Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath to the most drastic action possible to prevent misuse of funds at the disposal of the department.

McGrath stands ready, it was learned last night, to order City Auditor Rupert S. Carven to refuse to approve further drafts on the city treasury by the welfare department, until the correct name and the current address of every recipient of any form of aid are made the essential requisite to the disbursement of public funds.

In conference with Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers of public welfare and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department at 2 P. M. McGrath will demand the complete records, for which official requisition has been made, of 20 specific cases of recipients of aid who have been reported to him after a secret investigation, to be of such a character that a complete explanation must be forthcoming from the welfare officials.

### FLAGRANT EXAMPLES

These cases, representing more than one-fourth of the number selected for investigation as a cross section of the entire list of 31,000 recipients, are reported, on the basis of information filed by investigators, to form particularly flagrant examples of the reason for the rise of welfare costs to more than \$12,000,000 a year.

McGrath, who will be flanked at the conference by Corporation Counsel Silverman, City Auditor Carven and City

Clerk Doyle, will demand of Hecht and McCarthy definite answers to many questions of welfare department management.

He will ask them to explain why more than 100 recipients who are classified as too illiterate to sign their names to receipts of aid are registered voters in Boston.

He will ask for an explanation of the failure of the welfare department to furnish the statistics department with the complete list of aid recipients. It is understood that there is a shortage of more than 7000 names between the records furnished the statistics department and the statements of welfare officials revealing the actual number of recipients.

McGrath will also seek an explanation of the payment to a great many individuals of far more than the maximum allowance of \$15.

## PLAN TO RESTORE 2400 CITY LIGHTS

McGrath May Ask \$100,000 to  
End Curley's Economy  
Venture

Acting Mayor McGrath announced last night that he was seriously considering the advisability of recommending to the city council an emergency appropriation of \$100,000 to permit the restoration of current to 2400 electric street lights, darkened June 1, by Mayor Curley, as a measure of economy.

Multiplying demands from every residential section of the city for the restoration of the lights have convinced McGrath that public opinion is unanimously opposed to such a method of municipal economy.

McGrath has the authority to recommend an appropriation to meet an emergency. The city council yesterday asked him to take such action,

# DEMANDS LIGHTING RESTORED

Council Passes Order  
Instructing McGrath  
to Act

The Boston City Council yesterday passed an order calling upon Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath to provide \$100,000 to restore full street lighting in the residential districts of the city.

Some 2400 street lights were discontinued under the economy regime, out of a total of about 7200, and Councillors from various sections agreed that the move had been an incentive to crime and disease.

Councillor Peter A. Murphy of Jamaica Plain introduced the order, and he had the seconding support of Councillor Thomas Burke, Albert L. Fish and Francis E. Kelly of Dorchester, John F. Dowd of Roxbury, among a number. The vote to suspend the rules and pass the order immediately was unanimous.

Burke said that he had written Police Commissioner Hulman, asking for more police protection in the darkened Dorchester streets by night, and he declared that on Dorchester avenue at Dorchester Park girls and young women were being insulted nightly by rowdies lurking in the darkness.

### Urge Making Test Case

Councillor Israel Ruby of Dorchester wanted the council to summon corporation counsel at once to find out how far the acting mayor could go in ordering street lighting restored, and Dowd objected, declaring that Silverman was paid to protect the Curley interests and would advocate nothing which would give the acting mayor in Curley's absence any power at all.

"Let the acting Mayor go ahead and order the lights restored," he said, "and make a test case of it. Let the Supreme Court rule on it. I wouldn't take the corporation counsel's opinion to the acting mayor."

# COUNCIL ORDERS STREET LIGHTING

Calls on McGrath for  
**\$100,000 Special Fund**

Economy Measure Condemned  
—Free Current Is Asked

The Boston City Council, at its meeting yesterday, passed an order of Councilor Peter A. Murray of Jamaica Plain, requesting that Joseph McGrath, president of the City Council, as Acting Mayor of the city, provide an emergency appropriation of \$100,000 so that the street lighting of the city may be restored in full as soon as possible.

A few minutes earlier Councilor George W. Roberts of the Back Bay had succeeded in having passed an order requesting that a small portion of the Federal loan to the city be used for additional lights. Councilor Murray's order, however, caused one Councilor after another to register his protest against limited lighting.

#### Authority Is Questioned

Councilor Albert L. Fish of Ashmont in an order demanded that the Acting Mayor order lights turned on immediately. The question of McGrath's authority as Acting Mayor was promptly injected into the debate. Councilor John F. Dowd of the South End and Roxbury came to the rescue of the Acting Mayor. Dowd said that blame for the lack of lights should not be placed on the shoulders of the Acting Mayor. He said it was the burden of Mayor Curley, instead. Councilor Dowd expressed the opinion that if he were Acting Mayor of the city, he would order all lights turned on and allow the matter to go to the Supreme Judicial Court for a test of the authority of an Acting Mayor. Councilor Burke recounted conditions in Dorchester, allegedly due to improper lighting facilities.

Councilor Israel Ruby of Roxbury and Dorchester said he would like to learn the attitude of the corporation counsel on the question before the Council and several of the Councilors voiced a desire to have Corporation Counsel Silverman appear before the executive session of the Council and enlighten the Council on the authority of the Acting Mayor on the matter. Some Councilors feared that the corporation counsel would rule that an Acting Mayor had no authority to order the lights turned on. At any rate, the corporation counsel was not summoned.

#### Councilors Not Asleep

Councilor Roberts of the Back Bay arose to assure the electorate that the Council has not been asleep on the matter of street lighting economy and

read an order of his own protesting the plan for fewer street lights last May, weeks before the plan became effective.

Councilor Francis E. Kelly of Dorchester introduced an order asking that Acting Mayor McGrath request that the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston furnish free of charge the current necessary to restore the lights. Kelly's order was passed. Councilor Kelly said he had come 15 miles by automobile from Guilford, Me., where he was enjoying a brief vacation, so that his perfect record of City Council attendance would not be broken. He recently underwent an operation at the Ear and Eye Infirmary and later went to Maine to recover his strength.

The Council received a communication from Corporation Counsel Silverman ruling that Pres. McGrath, as Acting Mayor, had no authority to accept the legislative act that would permit city of Boston taxpayers to pay taxes in advance and receive interest on their money up to the time the taxes were due. The city had to July 1 to accept the act. Not being signed by the Mayor before that time, it becomes invalid.

## DOLE LIST X'S START INQUIRY

Voters Found Evidently  
Unable to Sign Names

McGrath Meets Today With  
Welfare Department Group

A new line of investigation was started by the officials at work on the records of the Public Welfare Department yesterday, when the names of upwards of 100 persons who are registered voters and whose receipts for welfare donations were signed with a cross instead of a name were said to have been found in the records.

The investigators want to know how it is possible for a man or woman to be qualified to be placed on the voting list when the law compels a person registering to prove his ability to read and write before he is qualified to vote.

If these persons have qualified to vote by reading and writing their names, the investigators want to know why a cross mark was accepted as a receipt for welfare payments. This is one subject on which Acting Mayor McGrath and his assistants will demand an explanation at the conference to be held today at City Hall between the heads of the Welfare De-

partment, the acting Mayor, corporation counsel, city clerk and city auditor.

#### McGrath Explains Campaign

Acting Mayor McGrath, explaining his demand that the Overseers of Public Welfare correct any irregularities in disbursements or laxity in supervision in that department, said that each fraudulent welfare recipient lessens the allotment to the really deserving.

McGrath pointed out that practically every department of the city has reduced its expenditures except the Public Welfare Department, and charged that increase in taxes on real estate can be directly charged to the Welfare Department. McGrath said that welfare payment to unworthy recipients must be stopped in order to prevent thousands of non-income producing properties, mostly homes, from being seized because of the inability of the owners to pay taxes.

McGrath said that 18,500 city employees have had their purchasing power curtailed by a decrease in their pay caused almost entirely by the increase in welfare payments. He added that it is safe to say that while not one of these donor objects to contributing to a worthy family, they are unanimously against contributing to welfare fakirs.

#### Score of Cases for Study

Acting Mayor McGrath will preside this afternoon at the conference. It is understood that he will call on the members of the board of overseers and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the department, to explain perhaps a score of what are called "typical" cases. It was learned that Corporation Counsel Silverman will quiz the members of the board on the cases and the overseers will be asked to present all information and records in their possession on the cases.

Although McGrath still maintains the stand that he feels it would be unfair to discuss his charge against the Welfare Department, it was learned that he will insist that the department obtain the name and address of each welfare recipient each time he receives a dole. It is said that unless the overseers agree to such a system McGrath after a reasonable lapse of time will request the City Auditor to stop payment of Welfare Department drafts.

HERALD

7/12/33

Post

# Laxity, but No Fraud, Shown in Welfare Investigation

Another Conference to Be Held to Consider the Result of Later Examination of Doubtful Relief Cases

Charges of fraud were well aired and the need of reform in methods of the welfare department of keeping records disclosed at a long conference of city officials investigating complaints of the handling of cases of public aid.

While no actual evidence of fraud was uncovered, it was agreed by the public officials present that some laxity had developed in the way records were kept. Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath said it was agreed that recommendations would be put before the full board of overseers of the public welfare department at once.

It was also agreed that the recipients of public aid from the city hereafter must sign names and addresses each time they receive payments.

Acting Mayor McGrath is holding for further consideration the most flagrant cases of suspected irregularity. Following the conference, which lasted nearly five hours, a statement was issued in which all present agreed that of the 19 cases of 40 discussed, no fraud had been disclosed in any of them.

## ANOTHER CONFERENCE

Another conference of the welfare department and city officials will be held next week when more reports from the city law department will be received on cases it is investigating.

In the statement issued it was admitted that the acting mayor had been assured of full co-operation by welfare officials. Those present at the conference and concurring in the statement, were Acting Mayor McGrath, Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Auditor Rupert S. Carven, James P. Balfe and Edward F. O'Dowd of the statistics department; Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the overseers of public welfare; Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board; Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, also an overseer, and Daniel A. Murphy, accountant of the overseers.

During the hearing Hecht asked: "Why should you men be finding fault? After all, it is the taxpayer who pays the bill."

While the public aid officials were in conference the Boston Council of Social Agencies issued its report, stating that the majority of relief applicants during the past winter were steady, reliable workers, not floaters or drifters.

## THREATENS TO RESIGN

A feature of the conference was the withdrawal of Budget Commissioner Fox, who left the mayor's office with a threat to submit his resignation as an overseer. He was followed by Chairman Hecht.

Welfare officials had no apparent difficulty in explaining 20 cases. They admitted recipients of aid, receiving more than the supposed maximum of \$15 per week are accorded such treatment because they work more days in other city departments.

Welfare representatives admitted they could not explain cases where letter-carriers and neighbors were ignorant of

the existence of persons at listed addresses. Neither could they tell about cases of two recipients listed to a drug store and a shoe store.

Welfare workers also were unable to explain cases in which visitors have filed no reports, but payments have been continued, also the case of a woman suing the city, who receives aid, and who sets forth in her petition for damages that she earns \$35 weekly as a nurse.

The statement issued at the conclusion of the conference said many cases were fully investigated and reported upon, and the welfare department was called upon to make explanations of many discrepancies and apparent irregularities which were recorded by the investigators and continued that welfare officials satisfied the acting mayor that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud.

## ACTING MAYOR RECEIVED COMPLAINTS YESTERDAY

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath of Boston said this afternoon that yesterday complaints began to seep into City Hall protesting what was claimed to be uncalled for advances in the price of bread locally. McGrath said that he wired Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture suggesting that the over of the Administration be used to prevent any unwarranted increase in the price of bread.

Councilor McGrath said that he pointed out that next to milk, bread was the staff of life, especially for children, and because of this he felt it was the duty of the Federal Government to cooperate with local municipalities in protecting the public from any pyramiding of bread prices at this time, beyond that made necessary because of the rise in price of flour in bulk.

The acting Mayor said that he felt sure the local Federal authorities of the Department of Agriculture stood ready to see that the flour processing tax increase was not being abused. He also said that he received a telegram today from Secretary Wallace pledging cooperation of the Federal authorities. As a result, he said, he felt sure that the Federal officials here would act in the matter if it becomes necessary.

# WELFARE PROBE IS ON AGAIN

Fin. Com. Head and Acting Mayor in Conference

One more investigation of the Boston Welfare Department got under way at City Hall yesterday.

Chairman Frank A. Goodwin of the Finance Commission, Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, and Chairman James P. Balfe of the statistics department, were in conference in Balfe's office, and the acting Mayor turned over to Goodwin a fresh batch of welfare records up to June 21.

## NEW SYSTEM

At the same time, it was announced by welfare officials that the new system of requiring signatures of the actual recipients of aid, and their current addresses, with all disbursements, had been started, in accordance with the demand of Acting Mayor McGrath on Tuesday.

Undismayed by the acting Mayor's statement Tuesday night, that welfare officials had satisfied him that none of the welfare cases which had been investigated disclosed fraud, it was understood that this new inquiry will go forward. It will be based on a check-up on the 8000 new cards sent the statistics department by the welfare department, bringing information to June 21, last.

## Law Department Out

Also, as soon as still newer information is forthcoming on the latest requirement of current addresses of recipients of welfare aid with every payroll, still further inquiry will be made by Finance Commission investigators.

The city Law Department will not figure in the latest investigation of the Welfare Department. This was learned not only in the Mayor's office, but Samuel Silverman, corporation counsel, stated plainly last night that he and his department would have no more to do with the situation. Silverman said that no fraud had been shown, and with the acting Mayor's statement to that effect, he regarded the incident as closed.

TRANSCRIPT 7/12/34

## No Fraud but System Still Imperfect

Acting Mayor McGrath, after yesterday's conference between the city officials and Chairman Hecht and Secretary McCarthy of the Overseers of Public Welfare, made a statement in which he said that none of the cases investigated showed fraud. As far as these cases may reveal the general condition, answer is given to the charges that the city was being swindled out of large sums through the laxity of the Public Welfare Department. And if in a considerable number of cases it is found that the charges are not supported by the facts, it is a reasonable assumption that the charges in general are untrue.

Here is welcome news. At a time when the necessity for public aid for an unprecedented number of the people of the city places heavy additional burdens upon the backs of the taxpayers, it would be especially unfortunate if fraud were making heavy inroads upon relief funds. At any time such a condition would be a source of disgrace and shame. It is easy to bandy about charges and rumors. Unfounded gossip may be so treated as to become the cause of public distrust and alarm. In this instance, investigation has gone far to give reassurance. The statement of Acting Mayor McGrath, who prompted the inquiry, is one that should be brought to general attention. It is the course of wisdom to let the antidote follow the poison without loss of time.

But this does not mean that the methods followed by the Department of Public Welfare are above criticism. Present inquiry shows defects that call for remedy. More than that, it has long been apparent that there was need of extensive changes in the department. The need was pointed out by the Boston Finance Commission as long ago as July, 1931. Nearly a year thereafter the commission found that only minor changes had been made in the department's methods of record-keeping and financial control. In view of such findings, the Transcript has taken the ground that "the Department of Public Welfare should now be reorganized on a modern scientific plan of business administration." The Finance Commission appeals to Governor Ely for immediate action to make reorganization possible. It is to be hoped that it will be taken.

For the opinion is inescapable that the failure of the department to effect adequate changes has contributed to a condition favorable to the dissemination of stories of such tales of actual swindling as those which were yesterday investigated and disproved. It is to be remembered, of course, that the department in the past several years has been

called upon to deal with an appalling extent of distress. Nevertheless, the exigencies of the hour made it all the more important that the millions dispensed in aid of the unfortunate should be handled in the way best calculated to promote public confidence in an agency charged with so great an expenditure of public funds.

When the welfare department reports to the acting mayor on these cases, he will confront the overseers with numerous others, it is understood.

### GET ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE

The overseers explained some of the first cases by revealing that the persons had moved to new addresses. McGrath discovered that the department had obtained advance knowledge of the cases he was to ask about and had made a check-up in preparation for the meeting with him.

But no explanation had been prepared in half the cases. The overseers also could not account for the fact that many persons, described on their records as illiterate and unable to sign for the dole except with a cross are on the voting lists. This phase of the investigation remains to be gone into further with the aid of the election board.

At the conclusion of an extended conference Acting Mayor McGrath issued a statement to the effect that the irregularities are to be remedied and another conference will be held next week.

They agreed to Acting Mayor McGrath's recommendation that every recipient before obtaining money must sign the proper name and correct address on the form card, denoting that payment has been made.

### FIN. COM. ENTERS PROBE

Acting Mayor McGrath today began investigation of more than 100 "tips" from citizens on welfare frauds and irregularities, as the overseers of the welfare department convened in special session as a result of his disclosures at yesterday's meeting.

McGrath put 39 cases up to the overseers yesterday and in 19 of these they failed to have any explanation of what were evidently flagrant irregularities.

At today's meeting they planned to call on visitors of the department to provide explanations which might satisfy the acting mayor.

While this meeting was assembling, McGrath revealed he had more than 100 letters from residents of Boston containing information about dole conditions. He said he would investigate all fully.

### STORES LISTED AS HOMES

The Boston Evening American learned that the 19 cases which the welfare department thus far has been unable to explain are the most flagrant of those previously described in these columns as having been unearthed by McGrath.

One dole recipient is listed as living at an address which is a drug store. He is not even known in that vicinity. Another is listed at a shoe store. Nobody there ever heard of him.

The overseers promised to find out why this was possible if the department's visitors did their prescribed work. Some suspect that the visitors approved various recipients without troubling to visit the addresses given. If this is not the case, then the matter becomes even more serious, involving outright dishonesty rather than inefficiency.

# AMERICAN MAYOR INSISTS BOARD'S AIDS BE GRILLED

Aid Recipients Listed  
as Living in Stores  
Visitors Called

Earlier in the day the Finance Commission in a communication to Gov. Ely asked that he request the Legislature in a special message to pass a law centralizing authority in the welfare department under a single executive.

TRANSCRIPT 7/12/33

# Expect New Rule to Block Fraud in City Welfare

## Officials Believe Signatures and Addresses of Recipients Effective Reform

The heavily-headlined conference on public welfare disbursements in Boston averaging anywhere from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 annually, has been held with a resultant minor reform expected to satisfy, at least temporarily, some of the critics of the methods of the Overseers of Public Welfare. By the simple expedient henceforth of requiring recipients of aid to sign the payroll and at the same time to give their addresses, city officials now feel assured that an effective barrier has been set up against possible fraud.

This new departure was agreed upon after a meeting lasting nearly five hours yesterday afternoon, which Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath had called for the purpose of receiving explanation of the handling of several welfare cases which had been included in a "suspicious" list. The sum total of the conference, according to a statement issued by the acting mayor, was that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud, and the expressed satisfaction by Mr. McGrath that the signing of their names and addresses by aid recipients "eliminates the possibility of fraud." There will be another conference some time next week.

Those who attended the conference were Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Auditor Rupert S. Carver, James P. Balfe and Edward F. Dowd of the city statistics department, Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers of public welfare, Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board; Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, member of the board, ex-officio; Daniel A. Murphy, accountant of the overseers.

Despite the reform, which was the immediate goal which Acting Mayor McGrath said he sought at this time, there still is a determined opinion among many observers that the problem over the welfare system can be properly solved only by the enactment of legislation to replace the present board of twelve unpaid overseers with a single salaried commissioner, so that responsibility may be centralized. Such a change is embodied in a measure before the Legislature, advancement of which was urged yesterday by the Boston Finance Commission in a letter to Governor Ely.

### Statement on Conference

At the conclusion of the conference, Acting Mayor McGrath issued the following statement which was agreed to by those in attendance at the session:

"As a result of persistent rumors that fraud was prevalent in the Public Welfare Department, Acting Mayor McGrath called upon the corporation counsel and the Statistics Department to co-operate with him in determining whether such rumors had any foundation in fact.

"After a series of conferences with the city auditor, the city clerk, the chairman of the Statistics Department and the corporation counsel it was agreed that such records as the Statistics Department had available concerning the Welfare Department cases, and which on their face appeared suspicious, be investigated by investigators of the Law

### Department.

"Many cases were fully investigated and reported upon and the Welfare Department was called upon to make explanations of many discrepancies and apparent irregularities which were recorded by the investigators.

"After a lengthy conference this day held the Welfare Department officials satisfied the acting mayor that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud. The conference, however, did disclose the necessity for certain changes in the present methods of keeping records by the Welfare Department and in which changes the officials of the Welfare Department fully concurred and agreed to extend the maximum amount of co-operation required.

### Must Affix Addresses

"It appeared from the investigation that the recipient did not affix his address to the payroll when receiving aid from the paymaster and merely was required to sign his name. It was agreed that it was essential, in order to prevent fraud and to permit of an immediate and speedy checkup, that the recipient be required to affix his address when signing the payroll. This recommendation was made some time ago by Acting Mayor McGrath who insists that if the present address in each case is affixed to the payroll upon the receipt of aid, possibility of fraud will be eliminated and the opportunity for an independent checkup will be available.

"In several cases it was disclosed that the name investigated was that of a deceased person and while the Welfare Department satisfactorily explained that the actual recipient was alive and that the name of the deceased was carried on the stencil for the purpose of continuity of record, as is done by all private charitable agencies, nevertheless it was recommended that to prevent possible confusion and complaint that deceased persons were receiving aid, that the stencils be changed in each case by affixing the word "deceased" after the name of the deceased person and to add the name of the present recipient in the particular family.

### To Check Cross Signing

"Because of the fact that it was disclosed that many persons who signed the payroll with a cross were in fact able to write their names it was agreed that the department cause a very careful checkup to be made of such cases.

"This statement is fully concurred in by the acting mayor, the officials of the Overseers of the Public Welfare who were present, the city auditor, the corporation counsel and the statistics department.

"A further conference will be held next week concerning the recommendations herein presented and to receive further reports from the law department of several cases which this department are to further investigate."

### Finds Few "White Collar"

### Workers Now Seek Aid

After three years of depression, few "white collar" workers are seeking aid from the Department of Public Welfare, according to the third unemployment study just completed by the Boston Council of Social Agencies.

Professional and clerical workers, sales clerks, proprietors, managers and foremen, all in the "white collar" class, comprised only ten per cent of the relief applicants included in the latest study. This, however, represents an increase of four per cent over the two previous years.

The majority of relief applicants during the past winter were steady, reliable workers, who but for the depression would be regularly employed and were not "floaters" or "drifters," according to the study.

Globe

# MCGRATH WINS WELFARE POINTS

## Actual Recipients of Money Must Sign Roll

Although 19 out of the 40 cases presented to the Public Welfare Department by Acting Mayor McGrath and Corporation Counsel Silverman were discussed in a five-hour conference yesterday afternoon, it was agreed at its conclusion that no fraud in these cases had been revealed.

The 40 cases were sent to Chairman Simon Hecht of the Welfare Department yesterday noon. The conference ended at 6:30 last night, and although the discussion became so heated in the Mayor's office that loud voices could be heard in the corridors, the participants were amicable and in good spirits when the conference was over.

The 40 cases had been investigated by city constables and the results of their investigations had been given to Chairman Hecht. He and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board, were instructed to come to the conference prepared to explain irregularities in them. Of the 19 discussed, it appears that Chairman Hecht and Secretary McCarthy presented satisfactory explanations.

Acting Mayor McGrath, however, did secure an agreement from the public welfare officials which will bring about the reform he had suggested in dispensing money for welfare. The Mayor had objected to the use of the name of the original recipient of welfare aid as a signature on the roll, and demanded that the name of the actual recipient be signed. This, it is understood, will be the system used hereafter.

In other words, if a recipient's weekly amount is delivered to wife, son, daughter or other agent, the name of the person actually receiving the money will appear on the roll. Another of the acting Mayor's improvements to be put into effect will be that "mark cross" signatures will be accepted only from illiterates in the future.

In a statement issued after the conference, Acting Mayor McGrath said that he was satisfied that in none of the cases presented was fraud disclosed. Another conference will be held next week to discuss further cases.

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come to the conference with less than the desired information on 21 of the 40 cases in question because when the meeting ended last night, Acting Mayor McGrath said there would be a further conference of those at yesterday's meeting some time next week. Then he would receive reports on the recommendations made at the conference and also hear additional reports on further investigation to be made by the Law Department on cases hanging fire at the close of the session.

Acting Mayor McGrath said that all agreed the conference disclosed the need of certain changes in the present methods of keeping records by the Welfare Department and he added that he was assured of full cooperation by welfare officials present, who said they would put the recommendations before the full board of overseers at once. It was also agreed that persons receiving city aid hereafter will have to sign names and addresses every time they receive payments.

### **Signature by Cross**

It developed at the conference that persons who are able to write their names and addresses were allowed to sign for payments by the use of a cross, but Acting Mayor McGrath said last night that officials of the Board of Overseers were unable to explain why this was permitted of persons other than illiterate. The conference discussed several cards of recipients of public aid who could not be located by investigators at the addresses on record at the Welfare Department and welfare officials gave explanations involving different addresses that will be subjected to further search by the investigators of the corporation counsel.

It is understood that Welfare officials were unable to tell the Acting Mayor how one recipient, among the cases at hand, was listed at an address that proved to be a shoe store and another was listed at what proved to be a drug-store. These cases are among the more than a score that will be further investigated.

Acting Mayor McGrath called attention to the claim that the Welfare Department had on record several thousand more recipients than were recorded with the city Statistics Department, and he was told that this would be shortly remedied by a system now in process by which seven copies of

each card will be made, one of which will go to the city Statistics Department to be used as a central index.

There seemed to be no explanation why welfare visitors have been unable to contact certain recipients regularly and thereby protect the taxpayers from the possibility of fraud.

### **McGrath's Statement**

Shortly after the meeting closed Acting Mayor McGrath issued the following statement to which those attending the conference subscribed:

"As a result of persistent rumors that fraud was prevalent in the Public Welfare Department, Acting Mayor McGrath called upon the corporation counsel and the Statistics Department to cooperate with him in determining whether such rumors had any foundation in fact.

"After a series of conferences with the city auditor, the city clerk, the chairman of the Statistics Department and the corporation counsel it was agreed that such records as the Statistics Department had available concerning the Welfare Department cases, and which on their face appeared suspicious, be investigated by investigators of the Law Department.

"Many cases were fully investigated and reported upon and the Welfare Department was called upon to make explanations of many discrepancies and apparent irregularities which were recorded by the investigators.

"After a lengthy conference this day held the Welfare Department officials satisfied the Acting Mayor that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud. The conference, however, did disclose the necessity for certain changes in the present methods of keeping records by the Welfare Department and in which changes the officials of the Welfare Department fully concurred and agreed to extend the maximum amount of cooperation required.

"It appeared from the investigation that the recipient did not affix his address to the payroll when receiving aid from the paymaster and merely was required to sign his name. It was agreed that it was essential, in order to prevent fraud and to permit of an immediate and speedy checkup, that the recipient be required to affix his address when signing the payroll. This recommendation was made some time ago by Acting Mayor McGrath who insists that if the present address

in each case is annexed to the payroll upon the receipt of aid, possibility of fraud will be eliminated and the opportunity for an independent checkup will be available.

"In several cases it was disclosed that the name investigated was that of a deceased person and while the Welfare Department satisfactorily explained that the actual recipient was alive and that the name of the deceased was carried on the stencil for the purpose of continuity of record, as is done by all private charitable agencies, nevertheless it was recommended that to prevent possible confusion and complaint that deceased persons were receiving aid, that the stencils be changed in each case by affixing the word "deceased" after the name of the deceased person and to add the name of the present recipient in the particular family.

"Because of the fact that it was disclosed that many persons who signed the payroll with a cross were in fact able to write their names it was agreed that the department cause a very careful checkup to be made of such cases.

"This statement is fully concurred in by the Acting Mayor, the officials of the Overseers of the Public Welfare who were present, the City Auditor, the Corporation Counsel and the Statistics Department.

"A further conference will be held next week concerning the recommendations herein presented and to receive further reports from the Law Department of several cases which this department are to further investigate."

## **'FIN COM' ASKS SINGLE HEAD FOR WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Public Welfare Department authority centralized under a single efficient head is sought by the Boston Finance Commission in a communication forwarded yesterday to Gov Ely, with the recommendation that he send a special message to the Legislature for this purpose.

Seeking to abolish and then reorganize the Welfare Department, the Finance Commission charges that this department is impervious to criticism and that it has failed to reflect improved business conditions because its expenditures have mounted instead of decreased.

This is the psychological time for the reorganization of the department, the communication says, because "in one investigation after another, every public board of official and every private organization that has looked into its workings has condemned its type of organization and have registered public demand for an organization along modern lines to bring the department work out of the existing labyrinth of doubt and inefficiency".

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tigation from which Corporation Counsel Silverman and the law department will be excluded.

#### NAMEs TWICE ON LIST

McGrath's immediate objective, it was said last night, is to ascertain why the names of 78 recipients of aid appear twice on the official list submitted by the welfare department to the statistics department.

McGrath expressed satisfaction that predictions that he was intended to be the victim of a plot to thwart his purpose to expose the welfare department were based on fact.

Developments in the welfare situation which Acting Mayor McGrath is determined to expose, regardless of the time and effort required, occurred in rapid succession yesterday.

In the forenoon the finance commission, basing its action on the fact that welfare disbursements during the second quarter of the year have exceeded by \$300,000 similar costs in January, February and March, appealed to Gov. Ely to ask the Legislature in a special message to replace the unsalaried board of overseers with single salaried commissioner of welfare.

The commission, reiterating a proposal twice rejected by the Legislature because of lobbying tactics by salaried officials of the welfare department, stressed in the communication to the governor, the fact that officials of the department have been impervious to all constructive criticism based on the results of many investigations which have shown the urgent need of the introduction of a new system of administration.

During the wrangle which extended from 3 until 8 o'clock, before Corporation Counsel Silverman dictated a statement, which Acting Mayor McGrath would not accept until changes to his liking were made, Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, an overseer, expressed resentment at the investigating tactics of McGrath, Silverman and City Auditor Carven and left the mayor's office with a declaration that he will soon submit his resignation as an overseer.

He was followed by Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers.

The outcome of the conference was in close accord with the forecast of observers who claimed to be cognizant of the "deal" which had been concocted to block Acting Mayor McGrath.

A prediction Monday that the officials of the welfare department, from whom the list of 39 cases was to be withheld until yesterday noon, had been in possession of the list since Saturday, was demonstrated to acting Mayor McGrath in such a convincing manner that he was reported to have become enraged.

The case with which welfare officials "explained" 20 cases, about which particularly suspicious reports had been filed by investigators of the law department, finally inspired Director James P. Balfe of the statistics department to inquire when a certain case was investigated by the welfare department.

"Yesterday morning," was the answer.

#### McGRATH ASTONISHED

"That's sufficient for me," McGrath is reported to have fairly shouted, indicating his astonishment that the welfare department could have known of the case Monday when the information was, by agreement, intended to be protected until yesterday.

During the squabbling, punctuated

frequently by suggestions to use modulated tones, "because reporters are outside the room," these admissions were made by welfare officials.

Recipients of aid, who are receiving more than the supposed maximum of \$15 per week, are accorded such treatment "because they work more days in other city departments."

"Isn't that discrimination?" McGrath inquired without obtaining any answer.

Failure to furnish the statistics department with a complete list of recipients later than the final week last November was attributed to lack of personnel which has been overcome by the installation of a machine with which it is hoped to keep the lists up to date.

No challenge was made to the registrars of voters about the listing of more than 1000 recipients who are considered so illiterate that they cannot sign their names.

Among the cases which the welfare representatives admitted they could not explain were instances where letter carriers, owners of residential property and neighbors, all were ignorant of the existence of persons at listed addresses; cases of two recipients listed to a drug store and a shoe store; cases in which visitors have filed no reports but payments have been continued, and the case of a woman, suing the city, who receives aid, and who sets forth in her petition for damages that she earns \$35 weekly as a nurse.

#### FLAGRANT CASES

Acting Mayor McGrath is said to have held for investigation by himself the most flagrant cases of suspected fraud which have been discovered. He plans to send registered letters to 1000 persons who are listed from specific addresses as regular recipients of aid and whose worthiness has been questioned.

McGrath expressed no sympathy at the conference with the obvious attempts of city officials to soft-pedal the inquiry into the management of the welfare department.

City Auditor Carven expressed fear that "we will not receive any share of the funds contributed by the federal government to the relief of victims of unemployment."

A statement, dictated by Silverman, was submitted to Acting Mayor McGrath for his final approval. It contained an admission of the need of the single change in welfare administration which he demanded and made reference to the arrangement for another conference next week.

Amplification of the statement was demanded by McGrath who finally penned to the statement which read: "A further conference will be held next week concerning the recommendations herein presented" these words: "and to receive reports from the law department of several cases which this department is to further investigate."

The statement set forth that "many cases were fully investigated and reported upon, and the welfare department was called upon to make explanations of many discrepancies and apparent irregularities which were recorded by the investigators" and contained that welfare department officials "satisfied the acting mayor that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud."

It was conceded that the conference disclosed the necessity for "certain changes in the present method of keeping records by the welfare department and in such changes the officials of the department fully concurred and agreed to extend the maximum amount of co-operation required."

Announcement was made of the adoption of McGrath's demand for the proper signature and correct address of every recipient. This plan, it was conceded, will eliminate the possibility of fraud.

## FIND NO FRAUD IN WELFARE AID

### Acting Mayor Discusses Cases With Officials

### Some Laxity in Methods and Records Disclosed

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath held his much-talked-of conference at City Hall yesterday with certain officials of the Public Welfare Department and other city attaches, and, after a five-hour session, all present in a statement agreed that, of the 19 out of 40 cases discussed and closed at the conference, none disclosed fraud.

The conference was a closed-door affair, those participating explaining that this was necessary because the names and addresses of persons receiving public aid were to be discussed.

Present were Acting Mayor McGrath, Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, City Auditor Rupert S. Carven, James P. Balfe and Edward F. O'Dowd of the city statistics department, on one side, and Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the Overseers of Public Welfare; Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board; Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, also an overseer, and Daniel A. Murphy, accountant of the overseers, on the other side.

Chairman Hecht departed from the conference room at about 6:30, more than an hour before the conference was declared closed by the Acting Mayor, who presided. Chairman Hecht appeared in good spirits when he emerged from the room, although it was known that he engaged in several heated clashes with Corporation Counsel Silverman during the progress of the meeting. The Acting Mayor's voice was also raised to a loud pitch on several occasions as he demanded from the welfare officials some bit of information he believed essential regarding alleged suspicious cases.

#### Dispose of 19 Cases

The conference had at his disposal 40 cases of persons receiving public aid which were regarded as suspicious after an investigation by constables employed by the corporation counsel.

Of the 40 cases the conference had finally disposed of only 19 when Acting Mayor McGrath closed the meeting shortly before 8 o'clock last night because of lack of certain available information to continue.

These 40 cases were those sent to Chairman Hecht yesterday noon a few hours before the conference was scheduled to begin with the request that he appear before the Acting Mayor with the necessary records to disprove the claims of irregularities raised by the investigators of Counsel Silverman.

It would seem that Mr. Hecht must

cut

HERALD 7/12/33

CHAIRMAN OF WELFARE BOARD



SIMON HECHT

**Why Worry? Says Hecht, People Pay**

The taxpayer's interest in the present administration of the welfare department now being investigated by Acting Mayor McGrath does not stand high with Simon Hecht, chairman of the board of public welfare.

During the course of yesterday's hearing between McGrath and members of the welfare department Hecht addressed the meeting as follows:

"Why should you men be finding fault? After all it is the taxpayer who pays the bill."

"Then you think that we shouldn't protect the taxpayer?" cut in Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman.

"I didn't mean it that way," replied Hecht. "I mean that the taxpayer is the one who is paying and not the men gathered around this table."

**BOARD AGREES  
TO LIST RELIEF  
CASES RIGHTLY**

Will Show Correct Name  
And Address of Actual  
Beneficiary

**NO EXPLANATIONS  
IN MANY INSTANCES**

Officials Admit Ignorance  
Of Fact Many 'Illiterates'  
Are Voters

By JAMES GOGGIN

Officials of the public welfare department, informed in advance of 39 cases of suspected fraudulent and unworthy recipients of public aid, failed at a five-hour conference yesterday to disprove the contention of Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath that 19 of the cases are flagrantly irregular.

Welfare officials admitted that they had no explanations to offer in specific cases; that they were unaware that persons listed as illiterate were registered Boston voters, and that changes in the system of departmental administration were urgently necessary. They agreed, without objection, to the only demand made by McGrath.

He insisted that henceforth every recipient of any form of aid shall, before obtaining money, sign the proper name and the correct address on the form card, denoting that payment has been made. McGrath's purpose is to make possible an immediate and easy check of every recipient.

Following the breaking up of the conference, to be renewed next week, after the 19 specific cases and many others are investigated, McGrath launched a new and independent inves-

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# WELFARE PROBE BARES NO FRAUD

## Stricter Check on All Cases in Future Agreed Upon by City Aid Officials at Conference

Chairman Simon E. Hecht and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the Boston Public Welfare Department yesterday satisfied Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath that of the 37 cases investigated and put up to them as suspicious, not one disclosed fraud.

### TO CHANGE SYSTEM

The welfare officials accomplished this with but two hours' notice of the specific cases to be discussed, and in the course of a questioning by Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman which lasted four hours.

They agreed to some changes in the department's system of disbursing \$12,000,000 annually to the city's needy, however. These include the procuring of the signatures of the actual recipients of the money, and the recording of their current addresses every time funds are paid out.

This means that an adequate check on the distribution of welfare aid can be had from now, and this represented the gaining of Acting Mayor McGrath's first objective, he said. He claimed not so much that there has been fraud in the paying out and receiving of money, as that there existed no real means for a quick and proper check on the disbursing of the millions of dollars in welfare work.

The clean bill given the welfare board after yesterday's long conference in the Mayor's office, followed an announcement by the Boston Finance Commission, headed by Frank A. Goodwin, that it had called upon Governor Ely for a special message to the Massachusetts Legislature, seeking a law to centralize authority in the welfare department under a single executive.

The Finance Commission repeated its words of 1931, in which it declared that it had found no dishonesty on the part of Boston welfare employees, but that the system was "wide open for fraud and dishonesty."

### Another Conference Next Week

Another conference between welfare officials and the acting Mayor, the corporation counsel and the city auditor, will be held next week regarding the recommendations for changes in the welfare records and to receive more reports from the city law department on several cases it has to investigate further.

Yesterday's meeting was one of the longest of its kind. It began at 3:15 p. m. and the actual consideration of

cases took it to 7:15 p. m., without an intermission. An additional half hour was consumed in preparing a statement for the press, concurred in by all parties.

Those in the conference included the acting Mayor, Joseph McGrath, who presided; Corporation Counsel Silverman, City Auditor Rupert S. Carven, Chairman Hecht and Secretary McCarthy of the welfare board; Charles J. Fox, budget commissioner of the city, and one of the welfare overseers; James P. Balfe, chairman of the statistics department, and Edward F. O'Dowd, secretary, and Daniel A. Murphy, visitor and accountant of the welfare department.

The conference apparently was a peaceful one, although at times the voices of Silverman and Hecht were heard in spirited discussion. Hecht was the first to leave it, coming from the meeting at 6:15 o'clock. He had no statement, saying simply that a statement would be given out by the acting Mayor which was agreed to by everybody. He was unruffled and in apparent good spirits. Fox and Carven went home shortly afterwards, to be followed by O'Dowd and Balfe.

### Text of Statement

The statement which came out of the long conference, which had the careful attention of all concerned before it was issued, was not amplified by any of the participants in the meeting. No one had anything further to say, they said.

"As a result of persistent rumors that fraud was prevalent in the Public Welfare Department," the statement said, "Acting Mayor McGrath called upon the corporation counsel and the statistics department to co-operate with him in determining whether such rumors had any foundation in fact."

### Necessity for Changes

"After a series of conferences with the city auditor, the city clerk, the chairman of the statistics department and the corporation counsel it was agreed that such records as the statistics department had available concerning the welfare department cases, and which on their face appeared suspicious, be investigated by investigators of the law department.

"Many cases were fully investigated and reported upon and the welfare department was called upon to make explanations of many discrepancies and apparent irregularities which were recorded by the investigators. After a lengthy conference this day held the welfare department officials satisfied

the acting Mayor that none of the cases investigated disclosed fraud.

"The conference, however, did disclose the necessity for certain changes in the present methods of keeping records by the welfare department and in which changes the officials of the welfare department fully concurred and agreed to extend the maximum amount of co-operation required.

### Must Affix Address Hereafter

"It appeared from the investigation that the recipient did not affix his address to the payroll when receiving aid from the paymaster and merely was required to sign his name. It was agreed that it was essential, in order to prevent fraud, and to permit of an immediate and speedy checkup, that the recipient be required to affix his address when signing the payroll.

"This recommendation was made some time ago by Acting Mayor McGrath who insists that if the present address in each case is affixed to the payroll upon the receipt of aid, possibility of fraud will be eliminated and the opportunity for an independent checkup will be available.

"In several cases it was disclosed that the name investigated was that of a deceased person and while the welfare department satisfactorily explained that the actual recipient was alive and that the name of the deceased person was carried on the stencil for the purpose of continuity of record, as is done by all private charitable agencies, nevertheless it was recommended that to prevent possible confusion and complaint that deceased persons were receiving aid, that the stencils be changed in each case by affixing the word 'deceased' after the name of the deceased person and to add the name of the present recipient in the particular family.

"Because of the fact that it was disclosed that many persons who signed the payroll with a cross were in fact able to write their names it was agreed that the department cause a very careful checkup to be made of these cases.

### Whole Ground Covered by 37 Cases

"This statement is fully concurred in by the acting Mayor, the officials of the Overseers of the Public Welfare, who were present, the city auditor, the corporation counsel and the statistics department.

"A further conference will be held next week concerning the recommendations herein presented, and to receive further reports from the law department of several cases which this department is to further investigate."

The 37 cases put up to welfare officials yesterday covered the whole ground of alleged fraud possibilities. For most of them the Welfare Department had explanations which satisfied the acting Mayor. On some of them the welfare board will look further and report back next week. Some cases they were unable to explain at all yesterday, but convinced McGrath that there was no fraud involved.

Cases of registered voters, who can read and write, signing with an "X", brought no satisfactory explanation, and welfare officials were at a loss to explain some of them, but they were able to show that the money went to the right places.

There were cases in which persons were unknown at the addresses given. There was one case where a recipient of welfare aid had not lived at the address given for 14 years, and there was no welfare visitor's report on the case at all. Men and women were being aided at other than their recorded addresses.

Globe 7/13/33

# FIN COM TURNS ITS GUNS ON WELFARE DEPT

## Requests Gov Ely to Ask Legislature to Centralize Authority Under Single Head

Within a few hours of the time that Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath was to confer with officials of the Public Welfare Department at City Hall regarding alleged deficiencies in that department, the Boston Finance Commission this afternoon sent to Gov Ely a communication recommending that he send a special message to the Legislature calling for the passage of a bill which will centralize authority in the Public Welfare Department under a single efficient head.

The Finance Commission would abolish and then reorganize the Welfare Department; it charges that the Welfare Department is impervious to criticism, and has failed to reflect improved business conditions in that the expenditures of the department have mounted instead of decreased.

The Finance Commission's communication follows:

"The Finance Commission believes the recent renewal of charges of inefficiency in the present organization in the Public Welfare Department of the city of Boston makes this the psychological time to recommend again to Your Excellency and to the members of the Legislature the enactment of legislation to authorize the reorganization of this department.

### Refers to Investigations

"From \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 per year of taxpayers' money is being spent by this department now; upwards of 100,000 inhabitants of the city are supposed to be depending for existence on the doles given by its employees; and yet in one investigation after another, every public board or official and every private organization as well that has looked into its workings, have condemned its type of organization and have registered public demand for an organization along modern lines to bring the department work out of the existing labyrinth of doubt and inefficiency.

"The department is apparently impervious to all such criticism. It continues to operate along its accustomed lines and failed this year, as it has failed in every year since 1929, to reflect the changes in the condition in the city caused by the various stages of the current depression. For instance, although each day brings new evidence of improvement in business conditions generally, with a consequent drop in unemployment figures, improvement is not yet apparent in the expenditures

for aid by the Welfare Department, as the following comparison shows:

	1932
January, February and March	\$2,795,676
April, May and June	2,440,297
Total	\$5,235,973
January, February and March	\$2,926,480
April, May and June	3,234,543
Total	\$6,161,023

"It should be noted that the total expenditures in the second quarter of 1932 were lower than in the first quarter of that year. In 1933, on the other hand, the second quarter expenditures were greater than the expenditures of the first quarter. Furthermore, it should be noted that in both quarters of 1933 the expenditures were in excess of the expenditures in the corresponding quarters of 1932.

### Urge Immediate Action

"The Finance Commission is attaching to this letter copies of reports made in the last three years to Mayor Curley, to the City Council, and to the Legislative Committee on Cities, all of which reveal the real conditions in the Public Welfare Department. Every subsequent investigation has emphasized and corroborated the findings of the first one, but little has been done to improve the situation.

"The commission desires also to call to the attention of Your Excellency that the Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the Finance Commission's efforts to obtain this reorganization by appearances before the Legislatures of 1932 and 1933. The reorganization has also been favored in editorials by the Boston Transcript (issue Sept 23, '32) and the Boston Herald (issue Oct 18, '32), copies of which are also attached.

"Following the Finance Commission's recommendations submitted by Mayor Curley, a bill to authorize reorganization of the Welfare Department received a favorable report from the Committee on Cities in 1932, but was defeated in the House.

Several bills providing for a reorganization were heard by the Committee on Cities this year, but decisive action was deferred until the charter study authorized by Senate Resolve 383 makes recommendation on it. To wait for this means that another year will have passed before the needed reorganization can start; that another \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 will have been passed out by an organization whose administration has lost every vestige of public confidence.

"The Finance Commission, therefore, recommends that Your Excellency send a special message to the Legislature calling for the passage of a bill which will centralize authority in this department under a single efficient executive."

AMERICAN 7/13/33

# WARNS MAYOR TO BALK ANY UNFAIR RISE

## Wallace Will Protect Consumers; Fixes Jump Under 2c.

Washington, July 1 (AP)—Secretary Wallace telegraphed today to mayor of 49 cities in 25 states announcing that the government will use its full powers if necessary to prevent "unwarranted increases in bread prices."

He has received protests on "unreasonable increases" in bread prices in connection with the processing tax levy of 30 cents a bushel on wheat which went into effect Sunday.

His message said:

"The Department of Agriculture is receiving complaints of unreasonable increases in bread prices in your territory.

"The department disapproves of increases in consumers' bread costs in excess of the amount involved in market commodity price increases plus the processing tax.

"In the case of bread a special vigilance in consumers' interests is imperative.

"This is no time for pyramid-

g.

"Placing unwarranted burdens on the consumer should not be tolerated.

"The Attorney-General is being informed of complaints. Governmental powers will be used if necessary."

The cities include:

Frederick Clemson Howe, who heads a section in the farm administration to protect the interests of consumers, said it was "obvious that dealers in many cities are taking advantage of the government's efforts to raise commodity prices and are endeavoring to exploit the consumer without corresponding gains to the farmer or the worker."

Wallace has estimated the processing tax, if reflected directly in the cost of a pound loaf of bread, should not increase its price more than one-half cent.

The increase in prices of wheat and other ingredients of bread from May up to last Saturday justify an increase of "a little over a half cent," he said in taking the position that increases were unreasonable where they exceed from one and one-eighth to one and one-fourth cents per loaf.

HERALD

7/13/33

# SPURRED TO ACT FOR TAXPAYERS BY HECHT JIBE

Goodwin Gets Machinery in  
Motion for Most Thorough  
Inquiry

## M'GRATH ASSISTS AT CONFERENCE

Investigation to Be Inde-  
pendent of City Law  
Department

By JAMES GOGGIN

A sweeping investigation of the public welfare department was ordered suddenly by the finance commission yesterday afternoon, and within two hours assumed the character of the most searching inquiry ever made into the administration of a municipal department.

Every investigational resource of the commission was hastily mobilized for a complete probe of recipients of every form of public aid, as well as the justification for every item of expenditure involved in the monthly welfare costs of more than \$1,000,000.

Chairman Frank A. Goodwin ordered the investigation after a conference lasting two hours in the office of the municipal statistics department. The participants were Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, Secretary Robert E. Cunniff of the commission, who was reported to be the active director of the inquiry, Director James P. Balfe and Maj. Edward F. O'Dowd of the statistics department.

### SPURRED TO ACTION

The commission was spurred to quick action by the publication of the statement of Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the overseers of public welfare at the conference in the mayor's office Tuesday which was considered to be a virtual exclusion of the taxpayers from interest in the administration of the welfare department.

Hecht asked Acting Mayor McGrath, Corporation Counsel Silverman and City Auditor Carven, who were questioning welfare officials about specific recipients of aid, why they were troubling themselves about management of the department.

"Why should you men be finding fault? After all it is the taxpayer who pays the bill," he said.

The finance commission took quick

cognizance of Chairman Hecht's statement, and without an explanatory statement of any character from Chairman Goodwin, it was learned that the decision was reached to impress on the taxpayers that their interests will be amply and fully protected by the finance commission.

Acting Mayor McGrath declined to make any comment other than to admit that he had visited the statistics department and that he had met Goodwin and Cunniff.

The unexpected development, following closely the appeal of the commission to Gov. Ely to recommend immediate legislation abolishing the board of overseers of public welfare and establishing a single commissioner to manage the department, forecasts the most intensive inquiry into welfare matters which has ever been made.

The commission will make the investigation without the aid of the city law department or any branch of the municipal government except the statistics department. Records there about welfare recipients will be used as the basis of the initial phase of the inquiry.

Among the matters which the commission will investigate is the declaration of McGrath that there has been rank discrimination in the making of allotments to recipients, and the discovery that there are upwards of 2000

# TRAVELER WOULD END SALARY CUTS HERE AUG. 31

## Bill Filed to Terminate Measures Effective Through 1934

Salary reduction measures affecting state, county and city of Boston employees would cease to operate after Aug. 31 of this year, under the terms of a bill filed in the Legislature yesterday by Representatives Alexander F. Sullivan of East Boston and Daniel J. O'Connell of Roxbury.

The bill will be given a hearing by the rules committee this afternoon on the question of admittance for formal consideration by the Legislature. Salary cuts for state officials and employees went into effect April 1 and are scheduled to continue to Nov. 30, 1934, except that in the case of legislators the reductions are effective throughout this year and next. County pay cuts, except in Suffolk, went into effect for a similar period, while those in Boston and Suffolk county officials and employees, under the provisions of an act passed late this spring, would continue through this year at least, and in the discretion of the mayor to be elected in the fall could be continued through next year if deemed necessary.

In filing the bill, Representatives Sullivan and O'Connell declared, "We believe the Legislature made a serious mistake when it voted to cut salaries of state, county and Boston employees."

"In the last few weeks many of the country's most prominent industries have increased wages, and yet state, county and Boston employees are suffering under the salary slash, although prices of the necessities of life are on the increase."

# AMERICAN Curley Fireworks July 28 Forecast at City Hall

"Fireworks? Say, let me tell you. Two weeks from today there will be more fireworks here at City Hall than on a half dozen Fourth of July."

The spokesman for Mayor Curley's Corridor Cabinet, that extraordinary galaxy of unofficial advisers who labor not, but do a lot of spinning, whispered this information to the only accredited member of the press today.

"Mayor Curley, who has been touring Europe for the past month, sails for home next Wednesday. He will arrive in New York on July 26. What will he do then? Would you like to know?"

Borrowing a cigarette — and a match — the spokesman outlined Mayor Curley's program as decided upon today by the Corridor Cabinet.

"July 26 — Mayor Curley will arrive in New York. Go immediately to Washington, where he

will give Pres. Roosevelt the best wishes. He will receive that 'important federal assignment' and return to Boston

"July 27 — Mayor Curley will announce his resignation and pick the man he wants to succeed him. That man will be one Curley likes personally, but whose best friends are Curley's enemies. However, politics are politics.

"July 28 — Curley's selection will cause plenty of fireworks. But he will slip quietly out of the picture and leave rival candidates battling among themselves."

At the next meeting of the Corridor Cabinet, the spokesman said,

"We will probably name Boston's next mayor."

Borrowing another cigarette, the spokesman vanished down a hallway where a group was passing around what might have been a bottle.

TRAVELER

7/13/33

# WELFARE DEPT. PROBE STARTS; BOARD SCORED

Hecht and McCarthy  
Face Grilling by  
Silverman

Two hours' notice to produce all official records relating to 40 specific cases of suspected fraudulent recipients of public welfare, given officials of the welfare department this afternoon by Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, was the second quick development today in the welfare situation.

**URGES SALARIED COMMISSIONER**  
Previously, the finance commission, in a communication to Gov. Ely, renewed its appeal for the replacement of the unsalaried board of overseers of welfare with a salaried commissioner. The legislature has twice refused to enact such legislation, and the commission, setting forth in the message to the Governor impressive reasons for immediate action, asked him to call upon the Legislature to take the action which was refused last year and again this year.

The unexpected action of Corporation Counsel Silverman was the final move before the conference at 3 o'clock, at which he, acting as inquisitor, will question Chairman Simon Hecht of the overseers and Executive Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department about the specific cases on which reports, indicating fraud, laxity and irregularity, have been filed by investigators attached to the law department.

It was not until 1 o'clock that officials of the welfare department became aware of the cases which they will be forced to discuss and explain at the conference. The information has been purposely withheld from them in order that the welfare officials would be compelled to base their answers and explanations on official records.

The cases in which Corporation Counsel Silverman will display keen interest are regarded by him and by Acting Mayor McGrath as a fairly accurate cross-section of the entire list of 31,000 welfare recipients.

It was delegated to Silverman to handle the inquiry into the cases, and Acting Mayor McGrath was scheduled to demand explanations of the welfare officials of other serious deficiencies of the administration of the department which have been uncovered.

Much significance has been attached to the discovery that more than 100 of 1477 recipients of aid, allegedly unable to read or to write their names, are registered voters. Ability to read and write is the principal eligibility requirement of applications to become voters.

## OFFICIAL INQUIRY

The attack on the welfare department came just before Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath went into conference with Chairman Simon F. Hecht of the board of overseers and Secretary Walter

V. McCarthy of the welfare department. The conference marked the beginning of an official inquiry into sensational charges of inefficiency, laxity and fraud in disbursement of the city's \$12,000,000 financial aid for the needy of the city of Boston.

The finance commission, taking cognizance of complaints regarding the administration of relief, asked Gov. Ely to call for enactment by the Legislature of a bill to bring about a reorganization of the welfare department.

The commission, in its communication today, declared this is a psychological time for remedial action.

It says that in ever investigation of the welfare department the type of organization has been condemned and demand made for establishment of a modern business service to replace the existing labyrinth of doubt and inefficiency.

## SCORES DEPARTMENT

The finance commission set forth that the welfare department is impervious to all criticism and stressed the fact that despite an improvement in business conditions generally, the welfare department expenses are mounting.

Compared with expenses for January, February and March, of \$2,926,480, the commission says, for the three months of the second quarter of the year, the expenses were \$3,234,543.

Further, the commission says it has repeatedly criticised the welfare department and recommended establishment of a single commissioner without securing official action by the Legislature, which the commission now wants Gov. Ely to obtain.

Acting Mayor McGrath planned at the conference with welfare department officials this afternoon to demand complete records of 40 or more specific cases of relief in which there is suspicion of irregularities.

McGrath was flanked by Corporation Counsel Silverman, City Auditor Carven and City Clerk Doyle. It was the acting mayor's intention to get a full explanation of the cases which have been brought to his attention. It is understood the number of cases under consideration represents about one-quarter of the cases picked for investigation.

The acting mayor issued a statement concerning the welfare situation, after his office had been swamped with complaints, amounting virtually to demands for a complete investigation of the welfare department.

The acting mayor said he is cognizant of the fact that in practically every department of the city except public welfare expenditures have been substantially reduced, but without a comparative reduction in the tax rate, which he knows can be directly charged to the cost of public welfare. He says further he knows that payment to each fraudulent recipient of public welfare inevitably lessens the allotment which can be made to every deserving family.

## CONDAMNS "FAKER"

The McGrath statement concludes by saying there are 18,500 employees of the city of Boston and county of Suffolk whose purchasing power has been curtailed by a salary reduction caused almost entirely by increased welfare department costs. It continues: "I am safe in saying that not a single one of these donors objects to contributing, in the form of a salary reduction, to a worthy recipient, but they are rightly unanimous in their opposition to supporting or aiding the welfare 'faker.'

The finance commission's communication to the Governor charges that the commission has failed this year, as it has failed in every year since 1929, to reflect the changes in condition in the city caused by various stages of the current depression. The commission

says reorganization of the welfare department has been favored by the chamber of commerce winds up by saying that the administration of the department has lost every vestige of public confidence.

Chapie

# WELFARE STUDY BY GOODWIN

Fin. Com Head Investigates "Suspicious" Cases

Chairman Frank Goodwin of the Boston Finance Commission was busy today investigating alleged suspicious cases of recipients of public aid, so that he will be in position to support, if necessary, the claims of the Finance Commission that the Public Welfare Department should be reorganized under a single paid head. A day or so ago the Finance Commission sent a communication to Gov. Ely recommending that the present Public Welfare Department be abolished.

At the request of Chairman Goodwin, Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath today sent to the Finance Commission as many as 75 cards on public aid cases suspected of being irregular.

The Finance Commission has from time to time investigated public relief recipients who were said to be either nonexistent or unworthy, and it is said that at no time thus far has the Finance Commission been able to uncover actual deficiencies in disbursement of city funds by the Welfare Department.

Acting Mayor McGrath won but a single point in his long conference with the Welfare Department officials and other city attaches last Tuesday, and that was that recipients of municipal aid should sign their name and addresses on the day they received the money. This system, although agreed to by Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the Welfare Department at the conference, is said to have broken down yesterday because the Welfare Department has too few paymasters to carry out the plan of the Acting Mayor.

The cards which Acting Mayor McGrath sent to the Finance Commission today were taken from the records of city aid cases now on file with the City Statistics Department, James P. Balfe, director. In the new investigation of the department by the Finance Commission, Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman is completely out. Silverman is said to have declared he was through with his investigation of the Welfare Department and would not take part in the one now under way unless he was drawn into it officially.

# Fin. Com. for Message to Legislature

Points Out Increase in Aid  
Given Despite Better  
Conditions

Immediate Action  
Is Necessary

Delay Now Will Mean That  
Situation Cannot Be Changed  
This Year

In a surprise move today the Boston Finance Commission called upon Governor Ely to take steps looking to immediate reorganization of the city public welfare department. The commission under the chairmanship of Frank A. Goodwin appealed to the governor to send a special message to the Legislature urging it to adopt a bill now pending there permitting such reorganization at once and to avoid the delay which a legislative committee suggests to put the matter over for a study of the city charter.

The commission charges that the welfare department has failed "to reflect changes in the condition of the city" and calls it an organization "whose administration has lost every vestige of public confidence."

Accompanying its message to the governor the commission sent an editorial from the Boston Transcript advocating such reorganization. The commission's communication sets forth that it is taking this action because of the current agitation which comes to a head this afternoon at a conference which Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath called on request of Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman. The commission's communication went to the governor at about the time the mayor sat down with the conferees, including Silverman, City Auditor Rupert Carven, Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, Chairman Simon Hecht of the Board of Overseers and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board.

The Finance Commission in its request to the governor submitted figures showing that whereas public welfare expenditures in the second quarter of last year dropped about 10 per cent from the outlay for the first quarter, expenditures for the second quarter of this year have gone up about 10 per cent over those for the first quarter. They point out that this increase is in the face of improved economic conditions.

The commission points out that the present agitation warrants the carrying out of their appeal and that nothing would be gained by adopting the suggestion of the legislative committee of cities that consideration of all bills bearing on the subject be deferred, pending a study of the city charter. This would result in possible delay for more than a year.

By this action the commission consistently follows up its previous report to the effect that the present organization of the welfare department is archaic and makes it possible for fraud.

When Acting Mayor McGrath opened his conference he was prepared to present twenty specific cases of welfare aid, which he insists, require explanation, in connection with his intended plans to

drive "fakers" from the welfare list, at the same time recognizing that it is a God-given duty to provide properly for our poor."

While the finance commission's surprise renewal of its recommendation takes the spotlight away from the acting mayor's conference for the moment, the McGrath move, meanwhile, may result in at least an immediate change of the existing system so that a quick check-up of the welfare recipients may be made soon after they receive their money aid.

In this connection McGrath is expected to insist that, in the future, when the aid recipients draw their money from the city, they shall be obliged to sign the payroll in City Auditor Carven's office and also be obliged to give their present addresses. By this means investigators in the office of the city law department can at once make a check-up to trace any possible fraudulent beneficiaries.

#### "Psychological Time"

"The finance commission believes," says the letter to Governor Ely, "the recent renewal of charges of inefficiency in the present organization in the Public Welfare Department of the city of Boston makes this the psychological time to recommend again to Your Excellency and to the members of the Legislature enactment of legislation to authorize the reorganization of this department.

"From \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 per year of taxpayers' money is being spent by this department now; upwards of 100,000 inhabitants of the city are supposed to be depending for existence on the doles given by its employees; and yet in one investigation after another, every public board or official and every private organization as well, that has looked into its workings, have condemned its type of organization and have registered publicly demand for an organization along modern lines to bring the department work out of the existing labyrinth of doubt and inefficiency.

#### "Fails to Reflect Changes" . . . . .

"The department is apparently impervious to all such criticism. It continues to operate along its accustomed lines, and has failed this year, as it has failed in every year since 1929, to reflect the changes in the condition in the city caused by the various stages of the current depression. For instance, although each day brings new evidence of improvement in business conditions generally, with a consequent drop in unemployment figures, improvement is not yet apparent in the expenditures for aid by the Welfare Department, as the following comparison shows:

	1932
January, February, March . . . . .	\$2,795,676
April, May, June . . . . .	2,440,297
Total . . . . .	<b>\$5,235,973</b>
	1933
January, February, March . . . . .	\$2,926,486
April, May, June . . . . .	3,234,545
Total . . . . .	<b>\$6,161,023</b>

"It should be noted that the total expenditures in the second quarter of 1932 were lower than in the first quarter of that year. In 1933 on the other hand, the second quarter expenditures were greater than the expenditures of the first quarter. Furthermore, it should be noted that in both quarters of 1933 the expenditures were in excess of the expenditures in the corresponding quarters of 1932.

#### Recalls 1931 Criticism

"The condition herein complained of is of long standing. After an investigation in 1931, the Finance Commission stated in its report:

The Finance Commission cannot condemn so strongly the system under which the grants have been made. The widest latitude is left to visitor, clerk and official alike, and almost anything is possible under the system. The Finance Commission can only say that in the limited time it has had to make this investigation, and with the limited finances for it, the commission's investigators have not found dishonesty on the part of the employees, but have found a system-wide open for fraud and dishonesty.

"Regarding the financial accounting the same report stated:

A proper check-up financially, therefore, is a very difficult proposition, and the blame for it must be placed at the door of the overseers, because repeatedly for several years the public accountant, sent in annually by the city auditor to examine the books, has called the attention of the board to the condition of its financial records without avail.

"The Finance Commission is attaching to this letter copies of reports made in the last three years to Mayor Curley, to the City Council and to the Legislative Committee on Cities, all of which reveal the real conditions in the Public Welfare Department. Every subsequent investigation has emphasized and corroborated the findings of the first one, but little has been done to improve the situation.

"The Commission desires also to call to the attention of Your Excellency that the Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the Finance Commission's efforts to obtain this reorganization by appearances before the Legislatures of 1932 and 1933. The reorganization has also been favored in editorials by the Boston Transcript (iss. 9-23-32) and the Boston Herald (iss. 10-18-32), copies of which are also attached.

#### Urge Special Message

"Following the Finance Commission's recommendations submitted by Mayor Curley, a bill to authorize reorganization of the Welfare Department received a favorable report from the Committee on Cities in 1932, but was defeated in the House.

"Several bills providing for a reorganization were heard by the Committee on Cities this year, but decisive action was deferred until the charter study authorization by Senate Resolve 383 makes recommendation on it. To wait for this means that another year will have passed before the needed reorganization can start that another \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 will have been passed out by an organization whose administration has lost every vestige of public confidence.

"The Finance Commission, therefore, recommends that Your Excellency send a special message to the Legislature calling for the passage of a bill which will centralize authority in this department under a single efficient executive."

The letter is signed by Chairman Goodwin and his commission associates, J. A. Sheehan, Joseph Joyce Denehue and Charles M. Storey.

TRANSCRIPTS 7/13/33

# Fin. Com. Starts New Check-Up of Welfare Aid

Acts on Request of McGrath to End or Prove Talk of "Graft"

By William F. Furbush

Upon the request of Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, the Boston Finance Commission today started a check-up of a group of about 75 public welfare cases, cooperating with the acting chief executive in the absence of Mayor James M. Curley in tracing down reports that there are unworthy recipients of public aid.

The action of the commission which, incidentally, is in line with its almost constant investigation of the welfare department activities ever since the establishment of the commission itself, follows a meeting yesterday afternoon which the acting Mayor held with Chairman Frank A. Goodwin of the finance body and James P. Balfe of the statistics department.

A new group of records was turned over by Balfe on request of McGrath to the Finance Commission which put its investigators at work checking up the addresses of the recipients and other data.

While no official statement of its action was given out by the commission's officials it is understood that this newest of check-ups is intended to put an end to or to prove the persistent talk of "graft" in welfare disbursements. In its recent inquiries into the subject the commission has gone no further than to assert that the system in operation in the welfare department makes fraud possible, although in the past it has compelled some unworthy recipients of public aid to return the money.

The commission repeated the fraud possibility conclusion in its recent appeal to Governor Ely to send a special message to the Legislature urging the latter to adopt proposed legislation to reorganize the welfare department by replacing the present board of unsalaried overseers with a paid commissioner so that there could be centralization of responsibility.

The findings of the present check-up by the commission's investigators are expected at least to supplement the commission's argument that the welfare department needs reorganization and that its present method of handling cases should be changed so that there can be no further grounds for suspicion leading to charges of fraud.

The present check-up is of new cards sent to the statistics department by the welfare department, bringing information to June 21. The acting mayor apparently desires the check-up data for the next conference on the subject which he has planned for some time next week.

A large measure of the suspicion attached to the cases brought to McGrath's attention has been attributable to the fact that investigators have disclosed

that recipients of aid were not residing at the addresses given on the cards sent to the statistics department. A check-back with the welfare department's records, however, has uncovered the fact that the recipients had changed their addresses, many of them frequently, since the aid was applied for originally. In no instance so far has it been disclosed that the disbursement was "imaginary" or that it went to somebody not actually and worthily listed for aid.

Investigations by the Finance Commission previously have uncovered the above situation and it is because of what it declares to be "laxity" on the part of the welfare organization in not having an immediately accessible central list of proper addresses of aid recipients that a chance of fraud creeps in.

In the absence of a current, central or master list of recipients and their addresses, the welfare officials depend upon the records of their district visitors or investigators. Each of these visitors keeps his own list of recipients and their immediate addresses. Accordingly, somebody in authority has a current, up-to-the-minute record of the cases, but instead of being central, the records are in subdivisions.

It was to obviate the confusion occasioned by this system that Acting Mayor McGrath brought about the minor reform in Tuesday's conference, viz., to have the aid recipients give their immediate addresses upon payment of the money due them. By this method, it was expected, there would be a record of addresses immediately available for investigators, either in the city law department under the direction of Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman, or in the Finance Commission's organization.

## Favors District Distribution

The system was placed immediately in effect after the conference, but broke down yesterday because of the confusion caused by the delay occasioned by the extra time required of the recipients in writing their addresses. This break-down gives weight to a long-established argument of the Finance Commission that there should be a supervising overseer in every district of the city and that the beneficiaries of welfare should receive aid in their own district.

Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the Board of Public Welfare Overseers, and Walter V. McCarthy, secretary of the board, readily agreed to the reform urged by McGrath at Tuesday's conference, which is declared to have been peaceful throughout. They pointed out, however, that the extra writing required of the aid recipients would cause the delay which actually developed. This delay was natural, it was suggested, as many of the beneficiaries write with difficulty because of the infirmities of age, or some other cause, or even hesitate to meet additional requirements which they might feel tended further to exploit their misfortune.

Excepting those who persist in the talk of "graft" and "fraud," there is a general opinion among those in a position to be familiar with the welfare disbursements that, while it is natural to expect that some irregularities cannot be escaped in the distribution of such a fund averaging from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 yearly, among thousands of unfortunates, the payment of money in unworthy cases is a very small percentage of the total at the most.

There is general agreement among all concerned, including some members of the board of overseers themselves that a centralized system of responsibility.

such as advocated by the Finance Commission—a system by which the present one of confusing multiplicity of record cards will be eradicated—would put an end to the recurring, and so far unsubstantial talk of wholesale fraud.

Those in the city government whose duty it is to maintain the strong financial reputation of the city privately express concern over the charges of fraud repeatedly broadcast. They look upon the charges as harmful advertising for Boston, advertising which they contend is bound to have an unfavorable effect upon potential investors in municipal bonds.

## Silverman Says He's "Through"

Following the Tuesday conference, Corporation Counsel Silverman warmly declared that the check-up of his investigation had prevented a possible "brutal blunder," in that there had been a plan to announce before the investigation of several cases that money was being paid to persons with fictitious addresses. In these cases the cards went back to November and the recipients had since changed their addresses and were found to be receiving their dole worthily.

"I'm through with this investigation," said Silverman. "The welfare department is being investigated to death. The department is doing a good job and should be left alone. Absolutely no fraud was uncovered in the investigations made in the cases which came before the conference. In every case investigated it was found that the persons listed were actually getting the aid.

"Furthermore, I want it understood that I did not appear as prosecutor of the welfare department. I did not request the calling of the conference on Tuesday. I did suggest that the welfare officials be consulted with to give them an opportunity to explain the cases of aid being paid to persons who were not found at the addresses given on the cards sent to the statistics department.

"This explanation was given satisfactorily. The conference was peaceful and friendly throughout. If a statement based on the Balfe figures had been given out before my investigation it would have been a brutal blunder. It is time to let the welfare department alone. I'm through. I have no intention of attending the conference set for next week."

## Some Funds Paid from Trust

In course of the present agitation, brought about by Acting Mayor McGrath under the instigation of numerous letters of complaint, there have been assertions that some recipients of public aid are getting or have been getting as high as \$25 or \$35 per week, as against the average maximum of \$15 per week. In this connection it may be explained that amounts in excess of the \$15 allotments are paid from a trust fund of about \$1,000,000 under sole control of the welfare overseers, and are paid with the discretion of the overseers.

Having independent control of this fund, the overseers are accountable only to themselves for disbursements therefrom and these disbursements do not come up from approval by the city auditor who can demand an accounting only for the funds made available by the city to the welfare department. The Finance Commission has the power to inquire into the fund disbursements, but it is not understood that the present inquiry by the commission includes such an investigation, which obviously would necessitate a prolonged audit.

AMERICAN 7/18/33

# RECORDS OF DOLE ASKED BY M'GRATH

Acting Mayor Surprises  
Officials of Wel-  
fare Dept. in Probe

In a surprise move giving overseers of the public welfare less than two hours to prepare their defense, Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath today called for the welfare department records of 40 suspicious cases.

Chairman Simon Necht was ordered by Corp. Counsel Silverman to produce the complete records of these cases at the City Hall showdown conference on charges of laxity and fraud in the distribution of \$12,000,000 annually by the department.

The 40 cases, picked at random, were secretly investigated by the law department and found to contain irregularities which Hecht will be called upon to explain, Silverman said.

The welfare officials had been given no previous notice as to specific cases on which McGrath's charges have been based.

It was made plain that the 40 particular cases chosen were not by any means the sole basis of the investigation launched by the acting mayor, but that they represented the "most suspicious" of those secretly inquired into.

Chairman Hecht, Silverman, City Auditor Carven, City Clerk Doyle and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department were the officials gathered with McGrath for the conference.

Why 100 aid recipients described as too illiterate to sign their names, are on the voting list and why the welfare department has failed to furnish complete records of the statistics department are questions Hecht will be called upon to answer.

# FIN. COM. OPENS PROBE OF 75 DOLE CASES

Goodwin Board Takes  
Over the Inquiry as It  
Reaches Deadlock

The Boston Finance Commission, taking the lead in investigation of public welfare irregularities, today began investigation of 75 welfare recipients, who are viewed as suspicious characters.

Two investigators were assigned by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin of the commission to seek these individuals and expose their true status.

The Finance Commission took over the investigation when it had drifted into what appeared to be an inclusive state under the leadership of acting Mayor McGrath.

The 75 cases were provided by James P. Balfe, director of the statistics division, to Chairman Goodwin.

Interest centered today on a charge that a large number of persons are receiving in excess of the supposed maximum weekly allowance of \$15.

Charges of discrimination in favor of friends of public officials were also said to be listed for scrutiny by the Finance Commission investigators.

The second investigation got under way shortly after Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath had expressed himself as satisfied that no fraud existed, but that his probe would continue.

## Forty Welfare Cases Listed as "Suspicious"

Early this afternoon, a few hours before the conference scheduled between Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath and officials of the Public Welfare Department concerning alleged irregularities in the conduct of welfare cases, Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman sent to Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the board of overseers, the names of forty persons receiving city aid who are alleged by investigators under Silverman to be suspicious cases.

Silverman requested Hecht to bring to the conference in the mayor's office his department's record of each case mentioned by the investigators. The investigators have reported that in the forty cases investigated they have found discrepancies. Silverman announced that Acting Mayor McGrath will call upon the Public Welfare officials to explain the alleged discrepancies uncovered by the investigators.

AMERICAN 7/18/33

# FIN. COM. READY FOR HEARING ON WELFARE

Several Instances of  
Laxity Reported  
Uncovered

A finance commission hearing, as a result of that body's probe of a number of welfare cases, appeared likely today following reports the commission's investigators had uncovered several instances of laxity and irregularity in aid cases.

It was reported that the commission's investigators, who worked in various sections of the city, were unable to locate various persons, named as aid recipients in the records turned over to them by the statistics department. The persons could not be found at the addresses given, it was said.

Rumors were free today that the commission might make use of its judicial powers and place certain persons, including welfare department employes, under oath in order to straighten out puzzling features of the probe. They may be questioned on the conduct of the department as well as certain phases of a number of cases under investigation.

A total of 75 cases of "doubtful" recipients was sent to Chairman Frank Goodwin by acting Mayor McGrath. It is believed the McGrath probe and the secret investigation of the commission, which has been under way for some months, will be merged and will go ahead at full speed.

Meanwhile, it was learned that no records of aid recipients since Jan. 1 have been submitted to the city auditor by the welfare department. It was also learned the records for last November and December were only recently turned over to the auditor.

Globe

7/14/33

Post

# HECHT, ASSAILED, DENIES ANY SLUR

Speaks When Exchange  
Asks His Removal

## Welfare Department Inquiry Speeded Up by Fin Com

Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the unpaid Board of Public Welfare of the city of Boston, last night denied that he said at a hearing before Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath Wednesday that "after all, it is the taxpayer who pays the bill." He was quoted in a Boston newspaper, not the *Globe*, as making this remark after he had asked "Why should you men be finding fault?"

"I absolutely did not make the remarks attributed to me," said Hecht.

Told that the Boston Real Estate Exchange yesterday had written Acting Mayor McGrath that the remarks, if correctly quoted, indicated an attitude so fundamentally wrong that, irrespective whether there are irregularities or inefficiencies in the way city welfare funds have been disbursed, he should be immediately removed. Hecht said "I have always looked out for the best interests of the taxpayers. Their best interests have always guided my actions. I flatly deny any cynical disregard for the interests of the city."

### Urges Change in Control

In addition to criticizing Mr Hecht, the Boston Real Estate Exchange, in its letter signed by Pres Edwin D. Brooks, declared itself in favor of "an immediate change in the control" of the city Welfare Department.

"We have felt for a considerable time," said the letter, "that the rapid growth of the business of the Welfare Department had resulted in some inefficiency and waste, and that a considerable reorganization within the department was necessary.

"We now feel that an immediate change in the control of the department should be made in the interest not only of the taxpayers of Boston but also of those justly entitled to assistance from the city."

Meanwhile, there were indications yesterday that the recent investigations of Acting Mayor McGrath into alleged fraud in the Boston Welfare Department had been merged with the investigation that the Boston Finance Commission has been carrying on for some months, but now with renewed vigor. It is likely that the two investigations will now proceed as one, under the direction of Frank A. Goodwin, the Fin Com chairman.

### 75 Cases Sent to Fin Com

Early in the day Acting Mayor McGrath sent to the Finance Commission, at the request of Chairman Goodwin, a batch of about 75 cases of "doubtful" recipients of public aid.

These cards were taken from the files of the Statistics Department at Boston City Hall, and are duplicates of records furnished that department by the Welfare Department.

On Wednesday the Fin Com took over the task of making a double check on the 39 cases that figured in the investigation by Corporation Counsel Silverman, under supervision of Acting Mayor McGrath. Nineteen of these cases were tabled at the conference last Tuesday at the Mayor's office to be further investigated by attaches of both the city Law Department and the Public Welfare Department. Yesterday Corporation Counsel Silverman said he was all through investigating suspicious welfare cases for the present, at least.

Finance Commission investigators worked hard and late yesterday in various sections of the city, it was reported, either locating or trying to locate numerous recipients of public aid named in the records of the city Statistics Department. It was said officially that in several cases the investigators were unable to locate, at the addresses given, men and women recipients of public aid recorded as receiving weekly relief from the city funds. The campaign is said to have uncovered lax methods in the keeping of records, although records were believed to be complete and correct up to June 1.

### Hearings May Be Held

It was rumored last night that it would not be surprising if the Finance Commission would make use of its judicial powers and place certain persons, including employees of the Public Welfare Department, under oath in order to clear up puzzling phases of the investigation as it tries to prove or disprove frequent charges of glaring irregularities in the disbursement of public relief money. Welfare Department employees may be quizzed on their knowledge of the conduct of the department and asked to explain certain phases of numerous cases.

The Finance Commission a few days ago sent to Gov Joseph B. Ely the suggestion that he call for legislation to reorganize the Boston Welfare Department under a single paid head, instead of the present unpaid board.

It may be that the Fin Com head is getting together what he would regard as typical cases so that he would be prepared to produce facts should Gov Ely act on his suggestion and request legislation.

# WILL NOT ACT ON LIGHTING

McGrath to Leave Matter  
for Mayor to Handle

Acting Mayor McGrath yesterday announced that he would take no action on the City Council's recent order asking him to provide \$100,000 to restore the 2100 street lights now turned off in the residential districts of the city.

McGrath said that he agreed that the lights should be turned on again, as such savings seemed in the nature of false economy. But Mayor Curley will be home from his vacation before the City Council meets again (in three weeks), and he thought it only right to leave the matter so that the city's chief executive could make his own answer to the order.

NEBALD 7/14/33

# MANY WELFARE IRREGULARITIES ARE UNCOVERED

Three Women Deny Asking Or Receiving Aid as Recorded

## SEVERAL ON ROLL PROPERTY OWNERS

Herald Inquiry Shows Others Have Jobs or Outside Help

Investigation yesterday by The Herald of 50 or more welfare cases in various parts of the city which had been reported as being "suspicious" revealed instances of irregularity in almost every case.

Of 10 cases considered in East Boston, nine of the aid recipients either owned houses, assessed from \$3500 to \$11,000, or these dwellings were taxed in the names of immediate members of the family. One recipient was said to have recently paid a tax bill of \$245. Another family, two members of which receive aid, own a three-family house assessed for \$5500 and also own and operate a small factory.

Three women, one living in South Boston, another in Charlestown and a third in Dorchester, all denied emphatically that they were receiving funds from the city, although their names are on the welfare rolls.

A Charlestown woman, convicted five times on liquor charges, is receiving aid, although two of her five grown sons are working. Another Charlestown woman who is given aid owns a two-family house, assessed at \$3600, lives in one half and rents the other half. A man and wife living in this section of the city, both are on probation, and have been in court many times on liquor charges.

### DON'T KNOW WHO GETS IT

Although records indicate that aid is being paid to a 70-year-old woman living in South Boston, her daughter denied emphatically yesterday that any one in the household had ever asked for or received welfare aid. "If the money is being paid," she said, "we don't know who is getting it."

The daughter admitted readily that her mother was receiving old age assistance. She denied that any one in the family, including in addition her husband and sister, operated an auto-

mobile. Inquiry at the registry of motor vehicles department revealed that the automobile which neighbors said the family owned was a 1928 taxi.

A discrepancy in the records was revealed, apparently, in the case of an 82-year-old woman listed as a recipient of welfare aid in Dorchester. Investigation showed that she lived in Charlestown with her daughter and son and that they had lived there for 12 years.

As in the previous instance, members of the family expressed surprise when informed that the elderly woman was listed as a recipient of welfare aid. The son said that he had applied for aid two years ago, but that he had been refused. The mother receives \$5 weekly in the form of old age assistance.

The daughter has equity in the \$3000 house in which they live, but she has been paying for it for 12 years and it is not paid for yet. The family's weekly income is, in addition to the \$5 received by the mother, about \$15. Part of that is realized from two roomers who live in the house.

Still another apparent discrepancy was found in the case of a 53-year-old woman living in Dorchester. She was described as a recipient of welfare aid, and of dependent aid, but maintained that she did not, although her son received \$4 a week from the welfare department for several months until February.

She said that she supported her son and daughter, who are out of work, and herself on a \$15 Spanish war veteran's widow's pension received from the government each month and on \$10 coming in from the state each month in the form of soldiers' relief. She was at a loss to explain why her name should be listed as a recipient of public welfare aid.

Another case investigated indicated that a widow supposedly living in the South end has been receiving public aid for at least two years, whereas in fact she moved two years ago to Cambridge. It is even a question as to whether she did not leave Massachusetts or move even farther than Boston, since directories and police listings in Cambridge failed to disclose her whereabouts in that city.

A mother and son to whom the city has been paying aid while they were supposedly living in Roxbury, have moved to another and better part of Roxbury apparently without the knowledge of any welfare visitor. The son, who is 41, is said by former neighbors at his address known to the welfare authorities now to have a job selling coffee and tea.

### RECIPIENT NEVER SEEN

No neighbor, storekeeper or tenant of a brick tenement Roxbury, ever sees a 36-year-old man who also lives in the building, and who draws both public relief and soldiers' relief from the city. He is said to have the job of janitor in the building, but is seldom seen.

Of ten families receiving welfare aid in East Boston, nine are owners of property ranging in value from \$3500 to \$11,000.

One family receiving both public welfare and dependent aid owns a \$5500 three-family house, also operates a small factory which seems to be doing a thriving business. Several members of the family work there.

The owner of a \$3700 three-family house in East Boston, works two days

a week for the public welfare department. There are two adults in this family and they receive public welfare and dependent aid.

Another man receiving aid is working.

He old a reporter he was going to buy an automobile.

Still another family owns a \$4800 house in East Boston and has two members of its family working. There are five adults in this family. A second house, of the three-family variety as is the first, is assessed to this family.

A property owner in East Boston who is receiving aid recently paid a tax bill of \$245. The two-family house is assessed for \$6800. This man also is said to own two vacant lots assessed for \$1200. There are three adults in the family.

A woman receiving aid owns a three-family house and a store. The property is assessed for \$4600.

A joint owner of an eight-family house in the district assessed at \$11,000 and probably saleable for \$15,000 receives aid. He has been on the welfare lists for about two years.

The owner of a house assessed for \$3500 is being helped out from city funds.

The owner of a three-family house than a year. The house is valued at has been getting welfare aid for more \$6500. Another a few streets away has a house assessed for \$2500.

### LIQUOR SELLER ON ROLL

Inquiry in Charlestown revealed a man without dependents, who conducts a profitable liquor business in the South end, and who receives \$12 a week aid.

A widow, who has a daughter and two sons working, also is an aid recipient.

Another man who receives aid from the city and also from two fraternal organizations, owns his own home and is reported to have refused offers of two jobs. A girl, living only a few streets away, refused a position paying \$18 a week, giving the excuse that she feared acceptance would mean that her family would lose their aid.

Still another woman in Charlestown receives aid from state, city and a charitable organization, and a man employed regularly also is a recipient. Other instances of persons receiving aid in Charlestown follow:

A woman who collects alimony from a divorced husband; a woman who owns a three-family house, with each apartment rented, meaning a monthly income of \$80; a family owning home assessed at \$1300, in which the husband receives city aid and the wife aid from a private welfare organization; a man who receives aid from an address where the house is unoccupied, with his wife receiving it from the home where they actually live.

Chase

## MAYOR AND FAMILY TO SAIL FOR HOME NEXT WEDNESDAY

Mayor Curley and family, after a European vacation of several weeks, plan to sail for home on the liner Bremen next Wednesday, arriving at New York city, July 26.

The party will come to Boston by train, and the Mayor will be back at his desk in City Hall on the following day.

Globe

7/14/33

Post

## HAS CITY AID RECIPIENTS' LIST

### Finance Commission Is Studying It

It was learned unofficially this afternoon that the Boston Finance Commission has had in its possession since yesterday the list of city welfare recipients as of April 1, and that the welfare officials were today completing the list of recipients as of June 1, which will also be forwarded to Chairman Frank A. Goodwin as soon as it is completed. It was said that the Welfare Department furnished the Finance Commission with the April 1 list yesterday within 10 minutes after Chairman Goodwin requested it.

Chairman Goodwin is said to have made the demand for a recent list of aid recipients when it was discovered that the city auditor had not received a so-called payroll list of public aid recipients since the first of this year. Welfare officials explained that the list of recipients was not up to date because of a tremendous number of weekly disbursements, which has been ever-increasing in the last few years.

It was explained that the Welfare Department makes a draft on the city for a stated amount of funds and that the city auditor in the natural routine certifies whether the city has the money available. When the draft is certified the Welfare Department begins to make disbursements. It is said that there is no stated time in which the Welfare Department is required to make an accounting for the funds expended, but this accounting is eventually necessary and is submitted, although sometimes a few months behind. In the meantime the department continues to disburse public aid because the city auditor has no reason to believe that there is anything irregular.

#### Acting Mayor Talks With Balfe

Acting Mayor McGrath was in conference this noon with James P. Balfe, director of the City Statistics Department which produced the suspicious public aid cases that resulted in Acting Mayor McGrath taking prompt action to learn what bases of fraud, if any, existed. Mr Balfe is said to have supplied the Finance Commission with the 75 cards that are now being looked into by investigators for the Finance Commission.

Since yesterday there has been a checkup on the list of aid recipients as of April 1 with the police listing taken the first few days of April of this year. Already as many as 50 names appearing on the welfare list cannot be found on the police list of men and women residents of the city over 20 years of age. The absence of the names does not indicate anything in itself, for most of them are understood to be in the South End of the city, where it is not uncommon for the shifting population to move again and again within a few weeks.

It was said this noon that the Finance Commission has not yet reached the stage in its investigation to determine whether hearings on the activities of the Welfare Department would be warranted. There is no question that the Finance Commission will summon before the full commission all

persons who come to the attention of their investigators as suspicious, and it is also probable that several of the Welfare Department visitors will be requested by the Finance Commission to explain their procedure in face of ever-changing addresses of aid recipients.

#### Must Sign Own Name and Address

Acting Mayor McGrath has insisted that the welfare officials keep their agreement that recipients of money sign their own name and give their address the day they accept the aid. The system was put into working order Wednesday morning, following the Tuesday conference at the Mayor's office, but broke down within a few hours afterward because of the slowness with which the payoff moved, due to the lack of paymasters.

Acting Mayor McGrath was persistent when he heard that the agreement was not being kept and today one paymaster was requiring that all recipients sign their signature and current address. When Mayor Curley arrives in Boston in the latter part of this month the Welfare Department will request nine additional paymasters so that the plan suggested by Acting Mayor McGrath be put into working order in an effort to keep the record up to the minute.

It was learned today that the Boston Real Estate Exchange was further checking on alleged remarks of Simon E. Hecht, chairman of the Overseers of Welfare, at the private meeting of certain welfare officials and city attaches with Acting Mayor McGrath last Tuesday. Last night the Real Estate Exchange sent out a statement to the effect that Chairman Hecht should be removed as a public official because of his attitude toward the rights of taxpayers.

## AVOID SLOWING WELFARE WORK

### Paymasters Can Write Ad- dresses of Recipients

Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the public welfare department will confer with Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath this morning, on ways and means of procuring the current addresses of recipients of city aid.

McCarthy said yesterday that the requirement of having each recipient write his new address so slowed up the lines at paymasters' windows that congestion had resulted, which threatened to disrupt the work. But if paymasters could write the new addresses for the recipients, after the signing of the payroll by the recipients themselves, and some more clerks could be procured, there would be no obstacle in the way of the new procedure.

The Acting Mayor said last night that he had no objection to paymasters or clerks writing the new addresses, but he insists on the recipients' own signatures.

leaders calling on Gov Ely early this week to ask him to send a special message to the Legislature, recommending primaries before the city election.

#### Publicity Pleases Nichols

The Democrats feel that even if Mr Nichols obtained first place in a split field of Democrats the second place winner, who would then contest with the winner at the regular city election, would have the backing of the other Democratic candidates and be an easy winner.

Gov Ely did not recommend any specific form of legislation. He merely asked for a law permitting a run-off primary. A public hearing will be held by the Committee on Cities Monday morning at 11 o'clock. Similar requests for this legislation, in individual petitions, have been defeated year after year by the Legislature, but never before has it been sponsored by the Governor.

The brief message read:

"In order to promote better government in the city of Boston, I recommend the enactment of a law providing for a run-off primary for the choice of a Mayor for the city of Boston. Under the present form of government a minority choice of the people may become the Mayor of our largest city. This should not be permitted. The evils resulting from the present form of Mayoralty elections are too apparent to need elaboration."

Ex-Mayor Nichols, who looked ready for action after his month's cruise with Mrs Nichols, appeared pleased at the publicly given the "Stop Nichols" movement.

He said he was deeply grateful to the Democratic city committee for the unsolicited publicity the committee

At the same time that Ex-Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols was making an informal announcement of his candidacy for Mayor of Boston to succeed Mayor James M. Curley, as he arrived home from a trip to the West Indies yesterday, Gov Ely, at the insistent urging of Boston Democrats, was sending a message to the Legislature seeking a run-off primary in the city election.

The plain and undisguised motive for the new election system, it is said, is to prevent ex-Mayor Nichols or any other Republican from winning the Mayoralty prize from a large field of Democrats. The issue is expected to provoke a bitter battle in the Legislature, where both branches are controlled by Republicans.

It has been known for some time that Mr Nichols intended to seek another term as Mayor and his announcement to reporters when the Canadian National steamship Lady Hawkins docked at the Commonwealth Pier, South Boston, occasioned no surprise. As a matter of fact it has been the "Stop Nichols" movement among Democrats in recent weeks that resulted in a delegation of Democratic

HERALD

7/14/33

Ch 03 E

# DISBURSEMENTS IN 1933 TO DATE TOTAL \$6,987,000

Mounting Increase in Face  
Of Better Times Puzzles  
Officials

## CARVEN HAS VAINLY ASKED FOR RETURNS

Fin Com Threatens to Call  
For Halt on Approval  
Of Further Aid

By JAMES GOGGIN

No records of recipients of public aid in any form since Jan. 1 have been submitted to the city auditor by the public welfare department, which expended \$6,987,000 in the first six months of 1933.

This disclosure was made yesterday as the finance commission investigation of the welfare department in close co-operation with the inquiry started by Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath gathered headway.

Repeated demands by City Auditor Rupert S. Carven for records of welfare disbursements within a period of at least four weeks preceding the current date have been futile. A variety of explanations of the failure of the department to file what is officially styled the payroll has been the answer to the auditor's demands.

City officials, concerned about the mounting increase both in welfare recipients and in disbursements despite an obvious improvement in employment conditions, expressed agreement yesterday that no business organization would tolerate such inefficient management as has been characteristic of the welfare department for the past three years.

Only for the chaos that would be created and the suffering which such drastic action would cause to worthy recipients of aid, the finance commission would have demanded that Auditor Carven withhold his approval of further drafts of the welfare department for funds.

### ONLY RECENTLY FILED

Auditor Carven admitted that his department has not received a payroll of the welfare department during the current year. In reply to questions he declared that payrolls for November and December were only recently filed.

The auditing department has records of disbursements for supplies, compensation of permanent employees of the welfare department and other expenditures but the auditing division is barren of any lists of recipients of public funds.

The auditor is clothed with ample authority to compel the welfare department to obey his orders, but he has been reluctant to make use of this power.

In contrast with expenditures for welfare during the first half of the year of \$6,987,000 the comparative disbursements last year were \$6,163,000. A study of the financial aspect of the problem by the finance commission and Acting Mayor McGrath has evoked expressions of astonishment that within the past two weeks the number of recipients has actually increased. In practically every other municipality where public aid is disbursed there has been a marked decrease in the number of beneficiaries.

The finance commission investigators worked secretly and rapidly yesterday. It was reported that they had reinvestigated the 39 cases investigated a week ago by constables in the law department and that the facts which had been obtained will be compared with the explanations made to Acting Mayor McGrath by Chairman Simon E. Hecht and Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department.

It was said that the commission would use its judicial power to obtain statements under oath from persons who are in a position to reveal the pertinent facts about aid cases which are regarded as highly suspicious.

### CHOSEN AT RANDOM

From a list of 8000 names of recipients as of June 21, available in the statistics department, finance commission investigators inquired into cases chosen at random for the purpose of making a quick test to determine the necessity of a complete inquiry into the entire list.

The investigation by the commission will be far different from the inquiry started by Acting Mayor McGrath, who was seriously handicapped because of inability to call on any department for assistance.

The commission has the authority to enter the welfare department and compel the production of any record which is desired. Any comparison of facts uncovered by investigators with department records, such as reports of visitors and addresses of recipients will be made without the co-operation of welfare officials.

It became known yesterday that the commission was keenly interested in the number of favored recipients who were collecting in excess of the maximum relief allotment of \$15 per week. An estimate of the number places it at about 2000. Unofficial versions of the reasons for such discrimination credit city councilmen and legislators with the influence necessary to obtain such favor. The commission is said to be determined to compel welfare officials to make specific explanation in each of these cases.

## FILE BILL TO END STATE, CITY PAY CUT

A bill to end Aug 31 the salary reductions of State, county and city of Boston employees voted earlier in the present session of the General Court was filed yesterday afternoon and will be given a hearing on the question of admittance by the House Rules Committee this afternoon. The petitioners are Representatives Alexander F. Sullivan of East Boston and Daniel J. O'Connell of Roxbury.

The salary reductions became operative April 1. The Sullivan-O'Connell bill provides those of the State county and city of Boston shall cease at the end of August.

"We believe that the Legislature made a serious mistake earlier in the year when it voted to cut salaries of State, county and Boston employees," the Legislators declared upon filing the bill. "In the last few weeks many of the country's most prominent industries have increased wages, and yet, State, county and Boston employees are suffering under the salary slash, although the prices of the necessities of life are on the increase.

"If our measure is enacted into law it will mean \$5,000,000 more purchasing power in the city of Boston alone."

## MCGRATH NOT TO ACT UPON LIGHTING ORDER

Approves It, but Will Let  
Curley Deal With Matter

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath said last night that he would not affix his signature to the recent City Council order requesting an emergency appropriation for \$100,000 for restoration of the full lighting facilities of the city streets and other public thoroughfares nightly. The lights of the city were ordered cut one-third a few weeks ago by Mayor Curley as an economy measure.

Acting Mayor McGrath said he was in sympathy with the order of the City Council, but he felt that because the Council would not again come into session until July 31 it would be useless for him to act at this time. He pointed out that Mayor Curley would be back in Boston before the Council could possibly act on the appropriation.

HERALD 7/14/33

# Real Estate Exchange Board Demands Dismissal of Hecht

Holds Words Show He  
Ought Not to Remain One  
Moment in Position

## 'CYNICAL DISREGARD' OF DUTIES CHARGED

Directors of the Boston Real Estate Exchange yesterday forwarded to Acting Mayor McGrath a communication in which they suggested the immediate removal of Simon Hecht as a member and chairman of the board of public welfare, because of Hecht's statement that the acting mayor and city council members ought not find fault with the manner in which the board's business is conducted because the taxpayers are paying the bills, not the city officials.

The directors characterize Hecht as having a "cynical disregard for the interests of the city," and declare that, regardless of whether there are irregularities or inefficiencies in the way public welfare funds are dispersed, "it seems to us fundamental that no person having the attitude indicated by Mr. Hecht's remarks should be allowed to remain for one moment in the position which he holds." Their letter was signed by Edwin D. Brooks, president of the exchange.

The exchange officers said they had felt for some time that there should be a considerable reorganization within the



EDWIN DEERING BROOKS  
President of Real Estate Exchange.

department, but the chairman's reported statement now calls for an immediate change, not only in the interest of the city, but of those justly entitled to assistance.

The exchange represents the largest real estate interests of the city, which pay a considerable part of all the taxes collected by the city.

The letter to the acting mayor follows:

Yesterday's newspapers quote Simon Hecht, chairman of the board of public welfare, as saying at your hearing yesterday on the conduct of the welfare department, "Why should you men be finding fault? After all it is the taxpayer who pays the bill." The Boston Real Estate Exchange, as representing taxpayers who pay to the city a very substantial part of its income from real estate, are vitally interested in the conduct of the city's officers. The directors of the exchange are amazed that the head of any department having the disposition of some \$12,000,000 per year of the city's funds should make such a statement. Mr. Hecht's words indicate such a cynical disregard for the interests of the city that it is hard to believe they were not spoken in some context that would explain them. We have, however, seen no explanation. Wholly regardless of whether there are irregularities or inefficiencies in the way the funds have been disbursed, it seems to us fundamental that no person having the attitude indicated by Mr. Hecht's remarks should

be allowed to remain in the position which he holds.

We have felt for a considerable time that the rapid growth of the business of the welfare department had resulted in some inefficiency and waste, and that a considerable reorganization within the department was necessary. We now feel that an immediate change in the control of the department should be made in the interest not only of the taxpayers of Boston, but of those justly entitled to assistance from the city.

## M'Grath Passes Lighting Problem on to Curley

Although sympathetic with the widespread demand for the full use of the city's street lighting system, Acting Mayor McGrath announced yesterday that he would not initiate an emergency appropriation of \$100,000 to meet the cost of lighting the 2400 lamps, dark since June 1, for the remainder of the year.

The city council will not meet until July 31, and as Mayor Curley is scheduled to resume his duties before that date, Acting Mayor McGrath, because of the futility of any action by him, has decided to submit the matter to Curley.

Pd 54

## HECHT DID NOT MAKE REMARK

### No Basis for Protest by Real Estate Exchange

The directors of the Boston Real Estate Exchange, over the signature of President Edwin D. Brooks, yesterday vigorously scored a remark attributed to Chairman Simon E. Hecht of the city welfare department, declaring that no person having the attitude indicated by such a remark should be allowed to remain in office.

The exchange's statement, which was embodied in a letter to Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, brought immediate denial, not only from Hecht, but from others who attended the Tuesday welfare conference in the Mayor's office, where the remark was said to have been made.

The quotation, purporting to be Hecht's, was:

"Why should you men be finding fault? After all, it is the taxpayer who pays the bill."

# WELFARE DEPT. SHAKE-UP URGED

Roy M. Cushman Would  
Modernize Administrative  
Procedure

## ASKS THAT WORK BE DECENTRALIZED

By ROY M. CUSHMAN  
Executive Secretary, Boston Council of  
Social Agencies.

Now as never before there is need for clear thinking on the issues involved in the administration of a great relief enterprise like that of the Boston department of public welfare in order that serious blunders may be avoided.

First of all it is essential that citizens have the right attitude toward the men, women and children who are the recipients of relief. There is altogether too much loose talk in wholesale terms about fraud and graft and racketeering in the public welfare department, as though all the thousands of men and women, who, up to the time of the depression, were self-respecting wage earners, had suddenly become utterly untrustworthy and dishonest.

When a young and vigorous father of four children in his bewilderment exclaims to the social worker, "I'm strong as hell; why can't I work to support my family? I don't want charity," the least that he should receive is the respect that his manhood deserves. True not all relief recipients are of this calibre—neither are they all dishonest, seeking aid to which they are not entitled. The fact of the matter is that the lists contain all kinds, with the decent, honest ones far outnumbering the dishonest and unworthy.

A recent study of unemployed clients of the department of public welfare made by the Boston council of social agencies indicates quite clearly that a large majority of the recipients of aid have good work records and would not have sought relief but for the fact of their unemployment. What could be

more unfair, then, than to give the impression, as so much of the current loose talk unquestionably does, that a large majority of public welfare beneficiaries are not entitled to the aid they are receiving?

Let me hasten to say that social workers are as eager as all thoughtful citizens to purge the relief lists of unworthy recipients. But they know of only one sure way to do it, and that is through the application of sound business principles in the administration of the public welfare department, and the employment of enough trained and experienced social workers to assure thorough investigation and sufficient followup. Experience has shown over and over again that not only does this way show the desired results—it also is the way of actual economy.

Can the department of public welfare be more effectively administered? The answer to this question must be yes. A modernization of administrative procedure in the department is essential. Furthermore it is possible under the present law. It is not necessary to up-root the whole department as was proposed in the bills before the Legislature last winter. Responsibility for administration of the department rests squarely on the board of overseers. There is no reason why they cannot by the delegation of authority to an executive officer of their own selection secure all the advantages which would accrue under a single commissioner type of organization.

In certain respects, the overseers are carrying on the work of the department in much the same way that it was done when Boston was a town; they still hold primary administrative authority. The city cannot show too much gratitude to the body of volunteers who have worked day and night through four weary years to meet the tremendous demands which the emergency has put upon them. Nevertheless, this type of organization does not conform to present-day ideas of administration. It makes for confusion and uncertainty in the determination of the giving or withholding of relief; it does not provide a fixed, certain, and responsible point of contact in the department for those who have business with it.

By a revision of their practice and a placing of responsibility definitely upon the executive secretary, the board to have the similar administrative relationship to him as does a board of directors in a corporation to its general manager, the overseers could modernize and make more efficient the work of the department, all without any change in the law which would tend to open the way to political control. This plan of administrative set-up has been advocated by the Boston Council of Social Agencies for several years, specifically in a statement first submitted to Mayor Nichols in 1927, and again to Mayor Curley in April, 1931.

It is the essential element of a plan drawn up by Charles J. Fox, budget commissioner, a member of the board of overseers, and officially adopted by the overseers in January, 1932. This plan, however, has not yet been put into complete operation. In a speech delivered at a meeting of the department of the family of the Boston Council of Social Agencies, on June 5 last, Mr. Fox said: "I am cognizant of the fact that under existing law the board of overseers is primarily responsible for the conduct of the activities of the public welfare department, and even if I could, I would not advocate lessening their responsibility one iota. My proposal is concerned solely with the manner in which responsibility is executed by the board. I feel at the present time the board is focusing too much attention on trifling details, and matters wholly routine in character.

on the individual members of the board, but also interferes with the well-ordered progress of the department. In my opinion a form or organization which has worked satisfactorily in the hospital and library departments could be adopted with distinct benefit to the public welfare department."

### SHOULD ESTABLISH PLAN

Obviously the urgency of the present occasion demands that the overseers move vigorously toward a complete establishment of the Fox plan.

Another step which, in my judgment, should be taken to improve the administration of the department is to decentralize the work into district offices covering the entire city. Other cities have tried this plan with success. Detroit and Worcester are good examples. It is heart-breaking to see the results of crowding into the limited space of the welfare buildings on Hawkins street thousands of relief applicants and recipients many of whom live long distances away.

With the group broken up into much smaller local units, it ought to be possible to assure quicker and more humane service to those in distress. Furthermore, given competent and experienced social workers to administer the offices and supervise the visitors, a district organization would show actual savings in department costs. The experience of other cities gives conclusive evidence on this point.

What about those who are to do the work of such a great relief agency. First of all it should be said that the Boston department of public welfare is and always has been greatly understaffed. The staggering case loads of four and five hundred cases which the visitors are carrying are way beyond the standard of one hundred recommended by the state department. Willing though they are to extend themselves in a time of emergency, it is inhuman to expect conscientious workers to continue indefinitely under such burdens, and at the same time demand of them consistently careful work.

### SOCIAL WORKERS' JOB

The most important point to keep in mind with respect to the personnel of the welfare department is that here is a job of social work that should be done by social workers. The law requires that appointment shall be made under civil service regulations. That is well. However, there is crying need for a revision of the civil service examination process to lay more emphasis upon professional training, experience and personal adaptability and less upon knowledge of legal details and departmental procedure. The overseers could help to bring about this much needed reform by insisting that examinations for workers in their department should be so devised as to discover genuinely qualified social workers.

Such action on their part would lift the standards of public welfare all over the state.

One more point is important to keep in mind. No public department can work effectively unless it has the confidence of the public. The primary responsibility for establishing and maintaining public confidence in their work undoubtedly rests upon the overseers themselves. A thorough-going reorganization under the plan which they have officially adopted should be their first step. But all citizens of Boston share in a measure the responsibilities of the overseers. It is their obligation to try to understand the work of the department, and to support the overseers in every sincere effort they make to improve it.

# Balbo's Men Invited to Visit City

From his office in the City Hall Mr. McGrath dispatched the following message to General Balbo, timed so that it will be handed to him when he lands at Chicago to complete the first formation flight across the Atlantic Ocean from Italy, to be one of the principal features at the Century of Progress Exposition:

General Italo Balbo, Commanding Commanding Italian Air Armada Chicago, Ill.

The City of Boston extends an invitation for you and your fellow officers to land here for luncheon on the first leg of your flight from New York to Italy. Boston lies directly on path to Newfoundland and has marvelous landing facilities in one of the best sheltered harbors on the Atlantic seaboard. Refueling facilities for armada if necessary. Boston awaits you.

JOSEPH MCGRATH  
Acting Mayor of Boston

For several weeks members of the Boston Italian colony and local aviation circles have striven to have the powerful transatlantic Savoia-Machetti seaplanes land here. The fact that General Balbo was held in Italy for several days has reconciled the local enthusiasts to the fact that an overnight stop will be an impossibility. At the Italian consulate in the Park Square building this morning it was explained that General Balbo has set a definite date in August for his return to Italy. It has been necessary for him, therefore, to decline some invitations that have been extended to him.

Because Boston lies on the direct route of the Italian armada between New York and St. John, it seems more than likely that General Balbo will avail himself of the invitation to accept the hospitality of Boston at luncheon on his return. It was learned today that General Balbo's return flight has been plotted to make the first night's stop out of New York at St. John, Newfoundland. With a morning flight from either New York or Washington, depending on where he starts the return flight, he can readily afford to make a forenoon halt at Boston and continue on to Saint John, landing there by daylight in the early evening.

## Boston Has Excellent Facilities

In New York this week the Transcript's representative learned that General Balbo plans to spend enough time in New York to make a thorough check of his flight equipment before starting the eastward crossing of the Atlantic by way of Newfoundland and the Azores. Preparations are being completed at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn to provide necessary overhaul facilities for General Balbo on his arrival in New York. The amount of work necessary to put the air fleet in condition for the return flight will influence, not only the Boston luncheon stop, but also the flight to Washington.

The facilities for landing a large number of huge seaplanes at Boston is second to none on the Atlantic seaboard, as

Acting Mayor McGrath indicated in his communication to General Balbo. Last week the Transcript's representative flew over Boston harbor in an Army Air Corps plane with Captain Joseph A. Wilson to determine the most feasible spot on the expansive waterfront for the quick landing of the armada. Captain Wilson, being in charge of the Air Corps detachment at Boston, was active in the plans for the Air Corps maneuvers in 1931 and has had a wealth of experience in the movement of a large number of airplanes in the shortest possible time.

Captain Wilson picked out the sheltered body of water at Old Harbor, north of Dorchester Bay, as being the most practical spot for such a landing. It was at Old Harbor where more than 500 military planes passed in review over Boston during the 1931 maneuvers. Since the Italian fleet carries such a large amount of gasoline it would not be necessary to provide refueling facilities on the intermediate stop at Boston. These could be made ready at a moment's notice.

The co-operation of the harbor police and other waterfront units has been assured in the event that Balbo decides to land at Boston. The entire force at the Italian consulate has offered to co-operate. Commander Armando Armao, Italian consul general at Boston, praised the efforts that are being made to bring the armada here and added that he would co-operate. Silvio Vitale, Italian vice consul here, was equally enthusiastic about the preparations.

## City Luncheon for Balbo

In sending the message to General Balbo, Acting Mayor McGrath said that tentative plans would be made for a luncheon to the Italian fleet personnel. This luncheon, because of the necessity for a speedy take-off, will be void of speeches and is to be quite informal. Such an informal reception, it was said, will appeal to General Balbo. It will carry very little expense to the city of Boston.

The selection of Old Harbor as a point for the seaplanes to alight upon is excellent from the standpoint of the public as well as the Italian flyers. The beaches of South Boston near Columbus Park provide ample facilities for hundreds of thousands of people to flock to view the landing and take-off of the Italian airmen. Traffic of small boats and private craft will be regulated by the harbor police in order that General Balbo will have nearly a mile square area to operate in on the luncheon stop without any interference from water craft.

The possibility for a parade through the city for the Italian flyers was discussed today. Later efforts will undoubtedly be made to influence General Balbo to make an overnight stop at Boston. In this case, a parade would be in order and a round of receptions undoubtedly be arranged. The Boston chapter of the National Aeronautic Association is planning to co-operate in completing arrangements for Balbo's visit. Patriotic Italian organizations are also joining the city in planning for the reception to the thirty-six-year old chief of the Italian Air Ministry.

# Delves Into Merits of Welfare Cases

In its newest investigation into certain public welfare cases, which is being made upon a formal written request by Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, the Boston Finance Commission will, as it has done in its previous inquiries, delve into the merits of each case examined to determine whether the recipients are entitled to the dole they are receiving. In the past, when the commission has disclosed that any recipients had received aid to which they were not entitled it has compelled the recipients to return the money to the city. Such procedure may be expected if similar cases arise.

Pending receipt of data requested of city officials, the commission is in effect marking time before getting the present inquiry definitely under way. The indications are that it may be some weeks before the complete results are set forth. Upon receipt yesterday of the welfare payroll for the week of April 1, last, the commission at once forwarded it to the city's statistics department to obtain the police and other listing of the addresses of the recipients whose cases the acting mayor has asked to be examined. The commission also is awaiting a batch of new cards bearing on about seventy-five cases, with the data as of June 21, last.

In its decision to go into the merits of the cases, the commission will satisfy the views of veteran city officials having to do with welfare disbursements. These officials privately express themselves as certain that no wholesale departmental fraud exists because of the numerous checks against activities, including a comprehensive "internal" check as a safeguard against possible collusion between department employees and aid recipients.

They feel certain that, if any irregularities exist, they will be found to be attributable, in the main, to unscrupulous applicants who have been able to persist in their unworthy receipt of aid because of a cumbersome system of records. This system already is being changed to a more simple one, urged by Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox, ex-officio member of the board of welfare overseers.

HERALD

7/15/33

# HECHT BLOCKED REORGANIZATION OF RELIEF BOARD

Opposed Fox Plan of Single, Full Time, Salaried Head

## DID NOT WANT TO BE RUBBER STAMP

Aliens Reported Getting Welfare Aid and Remitting Overseas

By JAMES GOGGIN

Application of the plan of Charles J. Fox, city budget commissioner, for complete reorganization of the public welfare department, ordered a year ago by Mayor Curley, has been prevented by Simon Hecht, chairman of the board, The Herald learned last night.

The Fox plan would place the department under the direction of a single full-time and salaried head, as the library, City Hospital and other city institutions are now operated. This proposal and others made by Fox for the introduction of modern accounting methods, and creation of seven assistant superintendents to direct the work of field visitors, are held to be the remedy for the administrative defects of the welfare department, under criticism since the depression placed an enormous number of recipients on the rolls.

The reorganization scheme was approved unanimously by the 10 overseers of the board aside from Fox, and encountered only the objections of Hecht, whose position is said to be that he does not want to become a "rubber stamp" for a single director.

Hecht has explained to the overseers that he feels they should retain all authority, and not delegate it to a single director, despite the merit and widespread indorsement by many of the scheme of making one person responsible for the conduct of the department, with the approval of a board of directors.

### FIN COM CONTINUES WORK

The finance commission, continued yesterday to delve into suspicious cases under the direction of the chairman, Frank Goodwin, who began the inquiry at the behest of Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath.

The commission investigators have found themselves again blocked by inability to learn the correct addresses

of recipients, and are concentrating on certain welfare visitors whose actions are said to have been suspicious for a long period.

Another angle which is also the subject of inquiry by the commission is the running down of the list of persons of alien birth who are suspected of concealing facts about their financial resources behind the screen of inability to speak English.

Councilman Clement A. Norton supported this suspicion yesterday in a statement asserting that foreign-speaking residents of Hyde Park, drawing welfare aid were able not only to provide for their families but to send money to relatives in European countries.

"This fact can be readily established," said Norton. "The welfare department is in a deplorable situation. In Hyde Park, where three visitors are supposed to keep track of more than 800 recipients, many who are not entitled to aid are receiving it while some deserving of it have been denied.

"Just as long as the city of Boston penalizes its taxpayers by making it more profitable for men to loaf than to find jobs for themselves, we will be confronted by the disgusting conditions which have been needlessly tolerated. Of course the department should be reorganized. There is great need of a responsible administrative head and an

equally pressing need of a modern system of business management. If we continue to allow these welfare officials, responsible apparently only to themselves, literally to throw away much of the \$1,000,000 which is disbursed monthly, we will continue to approach municipal bankruptcy.

The finance commission has insisted for a long time that the welfare system is wide open to fraud. Did any one ever know of a system lending itself to fraud which was not taken advantage of? Conditions in welfare have been rotten for years. Why not admit the facts and not continue to attempt to deceive the taxpayers?"

An interesting comment on welfare recipients, disproving the statements which city officials have often reiterated, that large numbers of college graduates had been forced to seek public aid, was issued yesterday by the Boston council of social agencies.

An analysis of 364 men, about one-half the number applying for aid from Nov. 15 to Dec. 15 last year, revealed but four who had attended college and only one who had graduated. But 40 per cent. of the 364 finished grammar school courses and 8 per cent. graduated from high school.

The council statement also contradicted the charge that "white collar" workers constituted a large percentage of the welfare list. Clerical workers in the 364 studied comprised less than 5 per cent., and the number formerly engaged in professional and public service was almost negligible.

Some slight progress in adoption of part of Auditor Fox's plan for welfare administration was reported yesterday when the civil service commission announced that examinations would be held July 27 for assistant superintendents of visitors.

Delay in making appointments to these posts has been caused by disagreement among the visitors themselves as to the number of years' service which should be set as a qualification for examination.

The assistant superintendents when appointed will supervise the activities of field visitors, enabling them to do more first-hand investigation of recipients and less clerical work at the department headquarters.

Responsibility also will be settled on the assistants for the efficiency, honesty and zeal of the visitors.

HERALD 7/16/33

# Relief Board Reorganization Long Debated; Is It Not Now Time to Do Something About It?

By ROBERT CHOATE

If some Rip Van Winkle had awakened this week after a short snooze of one or two years he would have had cause to rub his eyes and wonder at the newspaper headlines on the activities of the department of public welfare. This has become an annual affair. Year in and year out the public is treated to a close inspection of the activities of the department of public welfare, city and county employes are forced to contribute from their meagre salaries, the general taxpayer forced to hand over his swelling contributions, all because no sort of concerted public action has been able to force a reorganization of an agency that should have been properly brought up to date at the beginning of the depression.

I do not know how it is that the taxpayer and public have been forced to submit to such a situation unless it is that there is a good deal of politics in the whole business and those whose duty it is to correct the deficiencies have blown off a lot of words and have done very little in the way of constructive action.

In the printing of an exclusive story there is always a tendency on the part of the opposition newspapers to belittle and deny it. This has always seemed to me a short-sighted policy. Facts are facts and there is no use escaping them. Most newspaper beats are the results of some one's ingenuity and painstaking efforts. But there are still other "beats" and "scoops" which simply fall into the laps of reporters and editors and are a mere matter of luck. An excellent example of the latter was the case of a sports writer of a paper (not The Herald) who wired his editor from Miami that a C. F. Adams—"not the Adams of the Bruins" was to become secretary of the navy under Hoover.

## SUCCESSOR AS TREASURER

The next day his paper was able to come out with a big headline that Charles F. Adams, treasurer of Harvard, was to be a member of the cabinet. It was this same paper, however, that announced the appointment of a young State street banker to succeed Mr. Adams as treasurer of Harvard, which The Herald, by dint of a good deal of hard work and considerable resource, was able to deny the next day by the correct publication of the naming of Henry G. Shattuck. It is one thing, therefore, to run a paper which is willing to take all sorts of liberty with the truth and another to conduct it in strict accordance with the facts.

I have only cited this sort of newspaper sniping that goes on between offices—probably to the complete boredom and confusion of the respective readers—to show how silly it is in the present instance for the opposition to blindfold itself to the defects in our present welfare administration. The record alone speaks for itself wholly aside from the very substantial facts which The Herald has been able to contribute to the general picture.

As far back as March 27, 1931 Mayor Curley was hurling hot shot into the board of public welfare and demanding that it get on to the job. It is interesting to note that on the next day the mayor issued a statement that if there had been any wrong doing down on Chardon street it was the fault of the recipients rather than the negligence of welfare officials, a curious bath of whitewash in view of what has now gone over the dam. On April Fools' day of the same year the overseers issued a statement defending themselves and announcing that they had introduced a new system whereby all applicants would be made to swear to specific statements as to lack of funds and urgency of relief. This was done so that misrepresentation could permit a charge of perjury.

## URGES FIN COM INQUIRY

Toward the end of April, 1931, the mayor urged the finance commission to undertake an investigation of the welfare department and this was agreed to on the condition that the city would supply the money for the research. During the entire summer the work of the welfare department was under fire from the city council whose members were charging that it was either paying too much or not enough. On July 3 the finance commission brought in its report that the welfare board's "methods were archaic and open to fraud." Reform was immediately promised.

The year 1932 opened with the mayor asking the Legislature to create a board of paid overseers. In this he was vigorously opposed by representatives of the various social agencies.

In July the mayor asked Police Commissioner Hultman to undertake a complete investigation of every case of those on the welfare rolls. The result of this work must still be fresh in the minds of the ordinary newspaper reader. The police commissioner and the board of public welfare overseers soon became embroiled in a terrific political and personal battle. The mayor, at the time, was in the midst of his historic swing around the country in behalf of Roosevelt. (How many months

is a mayor supposed to allow for his vacations?) On Mr. Curley's return he joined the fracas and summarily ordered the police commissioner to stop the investigation which he himself had ordered.

The noise of this controversy had hardly died down, however, before the finance commission again started making things hot for the welfare board by reporting to the city council on Sept. 15, 1931 that as long ago as 1931 it had stated that "dependent aid had gotten beyond the control of the antiquated method of administration. That is the keynote of the present situation. The department is not organized to control it. It has not installed methods that can control it."

## URGED COMMITTEE

It was only five days prior to this second blast from the finance commission that The Herald urged the mayor to appoint a representative committee of citizens and heads of the various welfare agencies to recommend administrative changes. This plan never got any further because the mayor, then in the midst of his campaign activities, was on the Pacific coast.

When Mr. Curley did return The Herald carried this headline on Oct. 8: "WELFARE RESPONSIBILITY NOW PLACED ON OVERSEERS BY MAYOR; CURLEY ENDS POLICE PROBE; ORDERS IMMEDIATE ADOPTION OF HIS PROGRAM OF RUNNING DEPARTMENT ON BUSINESS BASIS."

By Jan. 12, 1933 the "new plan" was supposedly in operation. The Herald story read: "A comprehensive plan of reorganization of the public welfare department, proposed by Budget Commissioner Charles J. Fox and adopted by the overseers" was put into operation.

The Herald printed yesterday the disclosure that this widely heralded plan had never been put in operation because Chairman Hecht objected to it.

This is the record. It is to laugh. After three years, during which the city has been spending between 10 and 12 millions annually, we are just where we started. The welfare board is still pursuing the archaic methods which the finance commission has been powerless to overthrow.

In God's truth is it not about time to do something about reorganizing the department of public welfare?

HERALD

7/16/33

TRAVELER 7/17/33

# Fin Com to Probe 75 Cases Of Suspected Welfare Fraud

Recipients Taken from 'Payroll' for Week of  
April 1, Whose Names Do Not Appear on  
Police or Voters' Lists

By JAMES GOGGIN

Seventy-five new cases of suspected irregularity in the disbursement of public welfare await investigation tomorrow by the finance commission.

These comprise recipients, taken from the "payroll" of the welfare department for the week of April 1, whose names do not appear in the police listing of that date, in the list of registered voters or in any other record of residents of Boston revealing residence at specified addresses.

#### PRODUCE "PAYROLL"

The comparison of the April 1 "payroll" with records which provide a fairly accurate list of all Boston residents on that date was made possible by the acceding of Secretary Walter V. McCarthy of the welfare department to a demand by Chairman Frank A. Goodwin of the finance commission for the production of this particular "payroll."

In contrast with the repeated refusal of the welfare department to file with City Auditor Rupert S. Carven any record of aid disbursements during the current year, despite an expenditure to July 1 of \$6,987,000, the overseers responded immediately to Goodwin's demand.

Not only did the welfare department produce within 15 minutes the April 1 "payroll" but Chairman Goodwin was told that if he desired similar records subsequent to that date they would be placed at his disposal.

The fact that a telephone call by Chairman Goodwin achieved the result which City Auditor Carven has not been able to obtain in months started inquiry yesterday to ascertain how the department was in a position to furnish the finance commission with fairly recent records of aid disbursements when no record has been filed in the auditing department this year.

#### ONLY ONE ANGLE

Goodwin wanted the April 1 list in order that the recipients could be checked with the known residents of the city on that particular date. This is only one angle of Goodwin's investigation. The initial results of the inquiry are expected to be available Tuesday.

Goodwin's conviction that the welfare situation will never be rectified

and that the department cannot be placed under efficient management until the unpaid overseers are supplanted by a single commissioner has inspired him to prosecute the inquiry for additional information to be submitted to Gov. Ely to support the demand, made last week on him by the commission, for legislation, twice refused, but held to be essential to the protection of the funds of the taxpayers.

It was learned yesterday that the finance commission is keenly interested in the 39 specific cases of suspected fraudulent recipients, already investigated by the law department constables, and explained, in part, by welfare officials last Tuesday.

#### STATE CASES

In five of the cases, welfare officials told Acting Mayor McGrath: "Oh, they are state cases; the recipients are persons who can not establish legal residence in any municipality. Why worry about them?"

Goodwin is said to hold the attitude that the taxpayers of Boston, who provide a considerable percentage of the state tax, are as much interested in cases of this character as they are of persons with legal abodes in Boston.

Speculation has been aroused about the reported change in the attitude of the overseers of welfare toward Acting Mayor McGrath. With the return of Mayor Curley scheduled in 12 days, there is a disposition among certain welfare officials to ignore McGrath and await the return of Curley, whose recommendations about changes necessary for the benefit of the taxpayers in welfare administration have not always been recognized by the overseers. "I'll meet such a situation when it arises," said Acting Mayor McGrath yesterday. "I cannot conceive of any appointive municipal official ignoring any elective officer of the city, but there is definite responsibility devolving on me as acting mayor and I can assure the people that if necessity forces resort to the use of authority, I shall not hesitate about doing it."

McGrath was assured last Tuesday that the agreement made by Chairman Simon E. Hecht relative to the adoption of the system of forcing all aid recipients to sign their proper names and correct addresses as a necessary preliminary to the receipt of money would be submitted to the full board of overseers. He was also assured that an explanation of 19 cases of recipients which was not forthcoming Tuesday would be ready this week after a further investigation had been made in the department.

## CURLEY IN GOLDEN BOOK OF BERLIN

BERLIN, July 17 (AP)—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston entered his name today in the Golden Book of the city of Berlin.

## WRITES NAME IN GOLDEN BOOK

Mayor James M. Curley  
in Berlin

BERLIN, July 17 (A. P.)—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston entered his name today in the golden book of the city of Berlin.

## CURLEY GUEST OF NAZIS

Berlin, July 17 (INS).-Borgemeister Sahm gave a reception and luncheon today for Mayor James M. Curley of Boston at the Nazi party rathaus.

After the reception, the Boston executive was entertained at tea by members of the Carl Schurz Association.

RECORD 7/18/33

Ghobie

## MAYOR CURLEY IN A BOOK

Under the title, "On the Trail of the Forgotten Man," James H. Guilfoyle, Boston newspaper man, has written a vivid story of the Roosevelt nomination and the presidential campaign, with Mayor Curley as one of the key figures in that fascinating procession of national events. As an inside story of the nomination and of the campaign the book has value for the student of politics. It holds high interest as well for the Man-in-the-Street, the person of everyday affairs. One of the most absorbing parts of the book deals with Mayor Curley's famous Western trip, in which he made 104 Roosevelt addresses in 30 days. It was at that time that the talking film in which Mayor Curley appeared, "The Forgotten Man," was being shown all over the country. Hence the title of the book.

NEIRALD 7/20/33

## Farley Ready to Take Hand

### In Boston Mayoralty Contest

DEMOCRATIC MOVE  
AIMED AT NICHOLS

By W. E. MULLINS

Postmaster General James A. Farley, if the local Democrats fail to concentrate their forces on any specific candidate it is expected that Mr. Farley, collaborating with Mr. Maynard and other Boston leaders, will make a serious endeavor to inject into the contest a candidate on whom all the warring forces will be invited to throw their support in the hope that the victor will be a Democrat.

Mr. Farley and other nationally minded Democrats have regarded the Boston situation with apprehension, knowing that it will be impossible for them to explain outside of Massachusetts the election of a Republican mayor in a city that is more than 2 to 1 Democratic even though party designations are not used. They fear that such a development would have a distressing influence on the congressional elections in 1934 and be interpreted as the turning point in the fortunes of the current national administration.

Mr. Farley has discussed the Boston situation at considerable length with several of the Massachusetts members of Congress. He has pointed to them the menace throughout the nation of a Republican triumph in the Boston municipal election, but they have explained that they are practically helpless in any endeavor to consolidate the opposing forces.

The name of Congressman John W. McCormack of South Boston as a compromise candidate has been suggested but Mr. McCormack repeatedly has insisted that he does not propose to participate in the contest "if I can help it." It is agreed that if the national forces turn out in support of any specific candidate, this candidate will have the support of the state and national organizations.

This new development in the local situation has created an interesting situation for Mayor Curley, shaping the contest so that he will be practically compelled to avoid throwing his support to any but the one favored by the national and state administrations.

## WELFARE OVERSEERS TABLE MCGRATH PLAN

Their Next Move to Await Curley Return Wednesday

The Board of Overseers of the Public Welfare of Boston met yesterday, but took no action on the letter of Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath that the overseers put in effect a rule that 31,000 recipients of aid must weekly sign a receipt containing their addresses, as of date of payment.

According to Chairman Simon E. Hecht, the board is not in a position at this time to take the step, which would cost the taxpayers approximately \$20,000 in wages to nine additional paymasters.

Mayor James M. Curley sailed early this morning from Bremen and is due in Boston Wednesday. Action by the Welfare Board will await Mayor Curley's return to City Hall. At yesterday's meeting, Mr. Hecht said, routine affairs of the board were all that were passed upon.

## Post WELFARE CHECK TO COST \$20,000

Overseers of the public welfare, meeting last night at the charity administration building, 43 Hawkins street, West End, reported no objection to the demand of acting Mayor McGrath that Boston's 31,000 public relief recipients be required to sign their addresses as well as their names to the payroll each time they collect aid.

In a letter to the acting Mayor they pointed out that the proposal would make it necessary to appropriate from \$15,000 to \$20,000 additional in the budget to obtain about nine more paymasters to perform the desired work, and that if City Hall could provide the money, the welfare officials would be prepared to try out the plan.

The acting Mayor upon receiving the letter from the welfare board today will confer with City Auditor Rupert S. Carver in an effort to obtain the \$20,000 to hire nine paymasters. "Where we are spending \$12,000,000 for relief, it would be false economy not to spend \$20,000 additional to keep the addresses up to date," he said.

# AIL RECIPIENTS MUST NOW GIVE RIGHT ADDRESS

Welfare Overseers Unanimously Order Adoption  
Of McGrath's Plan

## CHANGED ATTITUDE COMES AS SURPRISE

Little Extra Expense Expected — Satisfactory  
Check-up Possible

By JAMES GOGGIN

Overseers of the public welfare yesterday capitulated to the demand of Acting Mayor Joseph M. McGrath and unanimously ordered the adoption of a system which imposes on all recipients of public aid the obligation of revealing identity and correct address as the essential requisite to receipt of public funds.

Opposition to the McGrath proposal, held to be the most constructive and most important step taken by the overseers in two years to end the archaic and chaotic system of administration, collapsed.

### CHANGED ATTITUDE

Overseers were described as fairly tumbling over one another in their determination to be officially recorded as enthusiastic supporters of the McGrath plan and the remarkable change in the attitude of some of the 12 members was last night a matter of comment by colleagues.

In order to make certain of the inauguration of the new policy as speedily as possible, Acting Mayor McGrath will confer with City Auditor Carven today concerning financial phases of the proposition and will discuss with officials of the welfare department the question of how many, if any, additional employees will be necessary.

McGrath declared:

I am keenly gratified at the action of the overseers. I did not anticipate that they would refuse to accept a proposal which to my mind assures the taking of the first step towards the inauguration of the most thorough system of checking welfare recipients which can be devised.

### AGREES TO PLAN

I understand that the overseers, or some of them, believe that if recipients are forced to sign their names and record their proper ad-

dresses once a month, a satisfactory checkup will be possible. I am inclined to agree to this plan. Surely it will not demand very many additional employees to have this check made monthly. I desire to have the system inaugurated just as quickly as the necessary arrangements can be made. I am willing to co-operate with the overseers. They have given proof of their desire to protect to the limit the interests of the taxpayers. If this new plan will weed out the "hide and seek" recipients and lessen the burden on the taxpayers it will be a worth while benefit. At any rate the burden of proving identification and residence will be placed where it properly belongs—on the recipient. Hereafter if any recipient cannot be found at the address given the welfare department, it will be an easy matter to immediately erase the name from the rolls and be of real service to the taxpayers.

That the meeting of the overseers was characterized by harmony which has seldom been conspicuous at such gatherings surprised the proponents of the McGrath plan, who had anticipated that Simon E. Hecht, chairman, would interpose vigorous objection to its adoption. The change in the attitude of objectors was revealed at noon when Acting Mayor McGrath was assured that with public sentiment aroused to a greater degree than at any time, the overseers realized that they must assume definite responsibility and take specific action to prove that the interests of the taxpayers are paramount to any other consideration.

Discussion of the McGrath plan evoked the suggestion that clerks or paymasters could be delegated to write the names and addresses given by recipients.

William H. Taylor, secretary of the board, vigorously opposed this idea. He praised the McGrath suggestion as "the most logical and practical idea" which could be proposed and asserted that he did not intend to nullify its purpose and its potential benefits by permitting any employee of the department to relieve recipients of the obligation of signing their names and addresses.

"If we permit this scheme," said Taylor, "we will be right back where we are now. Recipients, challenged to prove that they resided at the addresses listed can claim that they did not give such addresses."

Taylor's objection stifled the idea of having employees list names and addresses. Discussion of the need of addi-

tional paymasters in order to handle lines of applicants without compelling them to wait hours to receive aid developed the suggestion that if the department should force recipients to write their names and addresses monthly, the purpose intended would be achieved.

### INVESTIGATION EASY

Mrs. Agnes H. Parker indorsed this plan and pointed out that by quick investigation of cards picked at random, a fairly accurate average would be reached of the number of persons giving incorrect names and addresses.

The monthly idea will not necessitate the addition of any considerable number of permanent employees, and overseers felt that by assignment of clerks as temporary paymasters, the additional cost could be kept to a very small figure.

The board delayed inauguration of the plan pending agreement with Acting Mayor McGrath on the matter of weekly or monthly recording of names and addresses.

"That will not be difficult," said McGrath. "My sole objective up to the present time has been to place on the recipient the burden which belongs to him—to make known his identity and his address. I do not believe that any great additional expense will be necessary, but if the cost for the remainder of the year should be a few thousands of dollars it will be real economy to spend that sum when it looks as if welfare costs for that period will be \$6,000,000."

While the overseers were acceding to McGrath's request the finance commission investigators were making the most thorough probe of 39 specific cases of suspected fraudulent recipients once investigated by constables of the law department. Commission investigators were devoting a great deal of time to each case. In addition to the facts to which suspicion has been attached the commission has the explanation in about 20 of the cases made by officials of the welfare department to Acting Mayor McGrath.

It is expected that several days will elapse before the commission issues a report which is expected to be the heaviest blast ever directed at the welfare department.

## RELIEF CHANGE AWAITS MAYOR

No action on the plea of acting Mayor Joseph McGrath that recipients of public aid be required to sign their street addresses as well as their names when receiving funds was taken by the overseers of public welfare during their usual Wednesday meeting yesterday.

Following the meeting, Chairman Simon E. Hecht stated that only routine matters had been discussed and that any change in procedure would have to await the return of Mayor Curley from Europe. He added that acting Mayor McGrath's plan, if adopted, would necessitate the employment of nine additional paymasters, at an estimated cost of \$20,000 annually.

HERALD 7/23/33

# Boston Democrats Who Fear Minority Mayor

## Have Simple Remedy Right in Their Own Hands

By W. E. MULLINS

The Democrats of Boston are entitled to scant sympathy because of the refusal of the Republican Legislature to make provision for a preliminary runoff for the mayoralty election. The Democrats have the solution of this problem secure in their own hands. They have a numerical margin of 100,000 votes in the city, needing only to consolidate their warring factions to capitalize this tremendous advantage.

The charge repeatedly is made that the Republicans pack the field with Democratic candidates. The classic example is said to be the 1925 election, from which Malcolm E. Nichols emerged with enough votes to become mayor. The runner-up was Theodore A. Glynn, and he was put into the contest by Mayor Curley. Another strong contender was Joseph H. O'Neil, and he was sponsored by John F. Fitzgerald.

Mr. Nichols was elected, not because of Republican manipulation, but because of the jealousies of the Boston Democrats who deliberately crowded the field to prevent any one member of their party from obtaining the prestige and the power that would go with the office of mayor.

If the same situation develops this year it will be just as unfair to attribute the outcome to Republican manipulation. Dist.-Atty. Foley and Joseph F. O'Connell scoff at the suggestion that Mr. Nichols will prevail at the approaching election. Each of these two candidates right now professes to be supremely confident of winning the election regardless of how many rivals oppose them. They do not see any chance for Mr. Nichols to win.

There is no law to prevent the Democratic candidates and their friends from sitting down and agreeing to support one of their partisans against Mr. Nichols and if they cannot subdue their ambitions to that extent they hardly can be expected to enlist Republican support in any procedure to insure the election of a Democrat.

There is no question but that the national administration regards the present situation with apprehension. Postmaster-General James A. Farley is genuinely alarmed lest the Democratic party find itself utterly unable to explain away throughout the country the election of a Republican to be mayor of one of the strongest Democratic cities in the country.

### MISUNDERSTOOD IN IOWA

While the explanation would be entirely clear to local observers, it would be confusing to voters out in Iowa and California. They merely would know that a Republican had been elected and accordingly the first rebuke would have been administered to the Roosevelt administration. It would be interpreted as a forerunner of success in the 1934 congressional elections.

Moreover, if Mr. Farley meddles with the local situation he will incur the hostilities of the Democrats who will be forced out of the fight by his interference. He will be subjecting the favored Democrat to a fierce attack from Republicans for injecting his influence into a non-partisan contest on which his activities as chairman of the na-

tional committee should have no bearing.

Mr. Farley got his fingers badly burned by Massachusetts Democrats last year when he attempted, against his wishes admittedly, to elect a slate of Roosevelt delegates over the group that was pledged to Alfred E. Smith. He probably will remember that unpleasant experience.

If the Democrats put one strong candidate into the field against Mr. Nichols the Republicans cannot hope to make even a close fight of it. Let the Democrats solve their own party squabbles without whining to the Legislature in protest against an election system which was supported by many of their partisans when the present plan was adopted years ago.

The Republican politicians have enough troubles of their own without bothering themselves with the difficulties of their opponents. Within a few days now they are going to know definitely what course Speaker Saltonstall proposes to pursue in the next state election. He has purposely waited for the prorogation of the Legislature before announcing his candidacy for the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor. For a brief period last week it seemed as if his delay might have been disastrous. Atty.-Gen. Warner made a bold move when he asked for legislative authority to be made practically a dictator in the proposed investigation of crime conditions throughout the commonwealth. Such a position well might have placed him in a position to command invaluable publicity in a state-wide campaign for office.

Of course, he never had a chance to be given the grant of broad authority he sought. The Republican House members are too fond of Mr. Saltonstall to stand by and permit one of his rivals for office to be armed with so tremendous an election weapon. Nevertheless, the committee on the judiciary well might have given the attorney-general more consideration than it did by completely ignoring his proposed resolve after he had been specifically invited to present it.

### NONE TOO KINDLY DISPOSED

The Republicans from western Massachusetts are none too kindly disposed toward a ticket of Lt.-Gov. Bacon and Speaker Saltonstall. Senator Theodore R. Plunkett of Adams, an intimate friend of former State Treasurer John W. Haigis, is rather outspoken on the subject.

Mr. Plunkett is friendly to both Lt.-Gov. Bacon and Speaker Saltonstall, but he yearns himself for the opportunity to seek election to the lieutenant-governorship, but probably would be content to succeed Congressman Allen T. Treadway in the first district, provided Mr. Haigis were made Mr. Bacon's running mate.

The future political fate of Mayor Sinclair Weeks of Newton has been suddenly threatened by the candidacy of Thomas W. White, collector of the port of Boston, for mayor of Newton. Mr. White has considerable strength in Newton and if he ever should defeat Mr. Weeks, the present mayor would have to begin all over again in the climb he is making to fame.

The recent announcement from Congressman Robert Luce of the ninth district that he will run again definitely kills the frequently repeated rumor that

he had an understanding last year that he would yield to Mr. Weeks in the congressional fight next year. Mr. Weeks supported Mr. Luce in the primary against Ralph W. Robart, although Mr. Robart, like Mr. Weeks, was a militant wet, while Mr. Luce was and still is a dry.

If Mr. Weeks is re-elected mayor the chances that he will seek to succeed Mr. Luce in Congress are remote and he certainly does not propose to make a career of being mayor of Newton. He cannot beat Mr. Saltonstall for lieutenant-governor, accordingly his future has become slightly confusing.

The speaker of the House has an opportunity offered him to build up widespread and strong political contacts the like of which is offered to no other seeker of high office. When Atty.-Gen. Warner quit the speakership he had numerous valuable contacts gained through his associations with representatives from every section of the commonwealth, but he had the misfortune to encounter Mr. Fuller before he could capitalize this organization.

### SALTONSTALL STRONG

Mr. Saltonstall now has presided over five successive houses and still has another session ahead of him. He will have strong support in next year's pre-primary convention, which Mr. Warner will lack because an organization of friendly representatives can exert more influence on a convention of this description than Mr. Warner or Mr. Weeks could hope to assemble.

The Democrats are worse off than the Republicans when it comes to making good guesses as to the make-up of their ticket in the 1934 election. Congressman William J. Granfield of Springfield is flirting with the nomination for Governor, while Senator Walsh still is hopeful that Gov. Ely will seek a third term.

State Auditor Hurley is the only one that has been bold enough to plunge into the contest, but he stated that he would withdraw in the remote event that Mr. Ely should be a candidate. The auditor well may be named by Gov. Ely as one of the three members of the crime investigating committee, and if that happens it will be regarded as an unofficial endorsement of his candidacy.

The manner in which the various states are joining in the big parade behind the nation-wide movement for prohibition repeal indicates that the Legislature blundered in not enacting hard liquor control legislation, as Gov. Ely repeatedly insisted should have been done.

If the 36th state goes for repeal in a convention before next January a special session of the Legislature must be called. The important consideration is not so much the actual control of the sale and distribution of the hard liquors that will be legalized, but the imperative necessity of turning the taxation revenue its sale will produce into the state treasury.

When 3.2 beer was legalized here it was well into the afternoon of the first day before it was actually available for sale because of legislative delay. If there is a sudden rush of states to fix election dates in the fall to provide a sufficient number to carry repeal before the Legislature again convenes, the passage of hurried and unsatisfactory legislation

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Some foolish people think that Malcolm Nichols owes his success to Charlie Iunes. But he does not need Charlie to advise him. There is no shrewder politician in Boston than Malcolm Nichols and yet he is a quiet, unassuming person with none of the traits which the young generation think necessary in politics. He may outwit the Democrats again.

### POLITICS FORMERLY A CAREER

Politics was formerly a sort of career in Boston. A young man started with the common council or the school committee and gradually progressed upward. He first won the support and confidence of his neighbors and then he gradually added to his constituency. For him to grab at one of the higher rounds of the ladder before testing out his hold on the lower rounds would have been folly.

Today, due to the direct primary and the lack of a real organization in either party, the safest scheme is to aim as high as possible, trusting that bull luck in the shape of a multitude of candidates and the resultant confusion of the electorate may win for you.

There are persons running for high office on State tickets who couldn't even carry their own precincts for the office of dog catcher. Their hopeless incapacity is well known to their neighbors. Yet, they may receive thousands of votes from persons who do not know them.

The reason why there are invariably so many candidates for the school committee is that young fellows who couldn't be chosen to the ward committees of their own wards feel safe in entering a city-wide contest where most of the voters never heard of them. They are banking on getting votes by pure chance. Some of them, usually young lawyers, are in the fight just for the advertising. But these young fellows who haven't a chance to win are simply demoralizing their parties by nonsensical candidacies.

The whole technique of political fighting is changing. The scheme now is not to spend time in getting out affirmative votes for a candidate, but to rig the ballot with candidates to take votes away from his opponent. Hardly any candidate now is a majority choice at the primaries where the ballot is well filled.

### WHERE YOUNG POLITICIANS FAIL

However, the young politicians shouldn't be criticised too severely. They are, like most people, seeking short cuts to fame and fortune. They do not care for the hard work of politics unless there is something in it for them. Too many of them are of the Jimmie Walker brand instead of the Alfred E. Smith type. There isn't one of them would dare to take an unpopular side, even temporarily, as Mr. Smith has done, many times. That is one secret of his success. It shows his sturdy character.

Mayor Curley set the example here in Boston of lone fighters, men who depend on the power of personality and oratory coupled with an uncanny sense of publicity. These young fellows think they can do what Mayor Curley has done and that is the only style of campaigning they know. But it will be a long time before the Curley success can be duplicated here.

The administration in Washington is getting ready to give out perhaps a hundred or more executive and semi-executive jobs here. In most cities the Democratic organization will have a good deal to say about these jobs if they can produce the right sort of candidates. But we may be sure that few or none of the active young politicians in Boston will figure in the final lists.

But, in Boston, if our Senators and Congressmen pick out the men for the plums they will select personal friends—not party workers. None of the office holders is connected with any real political organization, they have only little personal groups surrounding them. Each office holder is interested only in getting two or three jobs for himself.

### TOO MANY ARE "BELLOWERS"

You can't blame them, however, because there are really few young men of outstanding talent who have a real standing.

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in politics here today. They are not in a position to force recognition for good offices. Too many of them are just "bellowers"—always bellowing at something. They feel the way to success is by violent and unreasoned denunciation. They forget that voters can get deathly sick of this constant bill of fare.

There is an amazing lack of idealism among them even though it is plain that, in these times, idealism is a valuable factor in political success. But you can't have idealism and go grubbing for votes, seeking some slick means of courting popularity and trying to extract a living from politics. They don't go together.

Politics in Boston is a cut throat business. Most of it consists in pulling another fellow down. There is no discipline, no person or persons in the shape of leaders with some political authority to curb the excesses of political aspirants and keep those who are wholly undesirable out of office. We have individualism run riot today, lowering the whole tone of politics and turning primary campaigns into cat and dog fights.

As a result candidates often have no conception of what they stand for and neither has the electorate. Most of the politicians have no fixed principles, but merely depend upon devices to catch the popular favor.

## Post WANT CURLEY TO NAME MAN

### Endorsement of Candidate Democrats' Aim

Mayor Curley's return home from Europe, this week, at the end of his summer vacation, will start a mad scramble here for his endorsement of a candidate in the coming mayoralty election.

Up to the time of his departure for Italy, Austria and Germany, six weeks ago, he declined to commit himself, preferring to remain aloof from the preliminaries of the municipal campaign.

But because of the recent defeat of the proposed Boston run-of primary bill by the Legislature, despite the intercession of Governor Ely, Democratic leaders will call upon the Mayor to use his influence to elect a party candidate.

Although there were 10 candidates in the mayoralty campaign of eight years ago, political chieftains expressed the belief that the record would be shattered in the next three months with an even larger field.

There are already five in the hunt, former Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, District Attorney William J. Foley, former State Treasurer Frederick W. Mansfield, State Senator Joseph A. Langone, Jr., and former Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols.

Globe

# CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR HUSTLING

## Nichols Busy Organizing His Forces

### O'Connell, O'Brien and McGrath Active

The sultry weather has in no way affected the enthusiasm of the candidates for Mayor.

Ex-Mayor Nichols, fresh from a four weeks' cruise through the West Indies, was the most active of the candidates the past week. Close on his heels was Ex-Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell of Brighton.

Nichols spent most of his time in quiet organization work while O'Connell continued an aggressive campaign with a view to securing for himself endorsement of the Democratic City Committee and various fraternal and social organizations of Boston.

The O'Connell forces perfected plans to raise \$50,000 for a campaign fund and also were busy arranging for a parade of 10,000 of his political supporters through the streets on the evening of Sept. 15. Another group of O'Connell men organized the Young Men's Democratic Club of Boston and arranged for a meeting of 500 young voters in the City Club next Thursday evening.

Neil T. Scanlon, president of the Ward 4 Democratic Club, a classmate at Boston College of the late James M. Curley Jr., heads a committee of O'Connell supporters who are now conducting a drive to organize groups of men and women supporters in each of the 364 precincts of the city.

Ex-Dist Atty Thomas C. O'Brien was another active candidate. He spent the past week contacting Democratic ward leaders of the city, and his political associates report he has received numerous promises of support.

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath continues to organize his supporters and he is now working on plans for organization of committees in each of the five Dorchester wards, where nearly 75,000 registered voters live.

Chairman Theodore A. Glynn of the Street Commission has let it be known that he will be a candidate for Mayor if he is given the endorsement of Mayor Curley. Friends of candidates O'Connell and O'Brien have already laid claim to that endorsement for their men.

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"What about 'A,' said one of the group—would he do?"

"A couple of years ago I would have said 'yes,'" replied one of the group. "He seemed to have a lot of sense and character. He was a bit different from the normal run and I felt he would make his mark in the Legislature and go higher. But lately he has become a 'bellower.' Someone has given him bad advice and told him he needs publicity. The result is that I am a bit suspicious of him. I am sure he is honest, but he is sacrificing his sincerity for publicity."

"Well, how about 'B,' has he the goods?"

"Yes," was the reply, "a smart fellow, very smart. Has a good deal of balance and is well thought of. But what I don't like about him is the class of law cases he has been taking lately. Some of them are pretty raw—that is, raw for a man in public office to take. He must know that his political influence and not his legal ability is being paid for. He seems too eager for money. If he wasn't he wouldn't be drawn into those cases."

"Then would 'C' be the fellow?"

"The best of the lot," was the reply. "Smart as a whip, aggressive and at the same time has a cool, calculating head. Just the type to make a successful prosecutor. He is honest and does not seem to be bitten by the money 'bug' like so many of these young fellows. But there is one thing about him, and only one which would prevent me urging his name. He has too many undesirable friends. He has foolishly allowed himself to be identified with persons whose reputation is hardly an asset to him. If it were not for his friends I am sure he would get the job."

And so it goes.

There is hardly a chance that Senator Walsh will be able to find the type of man he is seeking among the younger politicians. Some comparatively old-timer will get the post.

#### CASE OF WASTED OPPORTUNITIES

As an example of wasted opportunities in this town, take the case of Frank Goodwin. A few years ago he seemed certain to be headed for the Governorship. His reputation for honesty, frankness, courage and independence of political influence was high. The public had great confidence in him. He could have been a great vote getter.

But his political judgment is simply frightful. He got into a needless row with Governor Fuller and lost a post which had made him one of the most powerful figures in the State. The worst of it was that he was badly in the wrong.

His entrance into a primary contest with Governor Allen was not really a blunder, though he would have done better to have kept out, but his challenging of Youngman in a year when a Democratic victory was as certain as anything could be, was the height of folly.

He got Governor Allen to make him chairman of the Finance Commission and everybody expected that Frank Goodwin would make the fur fly. But something has held him back. He isn't afraid of anyone, but for some reason, best known to himself, the job does not give him the opportunities he thought it would or else he does not care for heavy action just now.

Frank Goodwin has everything a remarkable vote getter should have—one—a cool and calculating political mind. If he had hired a capable manager and followed his instructions as to political strategy it would have been Governor Goodwin or Senator Goodwin. He has muffed more opportunities than any man in Massachusetts.

#### THE CASE OF NICHOLS

On the other hand, take Malcolm Nichols. No one ever heard him say anything radical, denounce anyone or aggressively seek the spotlight. He is no orator and does not pretend to be. Yet he was chosen as Mayor of one of the strongest Democratic cities in the country. To be sure, a Democratic split was responsible, in the main, for his success, but he was shrewd enough to know it was coming.

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### MUST HAVE POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

Nearly every large city has some real political organization except Boston. And a political organization which does not develop young talent will soon go to pieces. No doubt Tammany Hall does some mighty raw things in New York. There are some big grafters high in that organization. Judge Seabury exposed many of them. The city government is wildly extravagant and ruled by politics solely.

But Tammany does develop some outstanding young men. Joseph V. McKee, Surrogate James A. Foley (son-in-law of the late Charles F. Murphy), several young judges of the higher courts have been given their chance by Tammany and they have made good. There may be many black sheep in the Tammany fold, but there are also some high-class men there.

In Boston the young politician is solely "on his own." The only political backing he can get is by personal appeal. There is no organization to finance him. There is no collective leadership to which he can appeal for endorsement. In many cases he must make money out of politics to finance his campaigns. If he gets an appointive job of any consequence he usually drops out of active politics.

### HOW TAMMANY PROSPERS

Tammany sees that its bright young men have jobs. They do not need to "collect" for doing favors for people. The organization gets the credit. But the job holder is free from petty financial worries. He can give his services to the organization in various ways without expecting to be paid. Thus Tammany can do an immense amount of practical service to those upon whom it relies for votes.

In Boston, however, the young political office holder must make a living. Some of them have no other source of income aside from that which comes to them directly or indirectly from politics. They expect to be paid for what they do. They cannot give free legal service. They cannot devote the major part of their time to those things which Tammany does freely and without price for those who seek the aid of the organization.

### "TAKING CARE" OF POLITICIANS

A few years ago some little furore was aroused by the claim that members of the Legislature were acting as counsel for persons who had claims against the city and had secured highly satisfactory settlements. Nothing was done about it.

But a member of the corporation counsel's force at that time admitted frankly, but confidentially, to a Post reporter that he had handed out a little "sugar" to members of the Legislature in connection with these settlements.

"We need their votes," he said. "There are matters which vitally affect the city and we have to line up votes for them. I have never allowed these fellows to get away with much, but I am frank to say I have several times put them in the way of getting two or three hundred dollars for themselves by agreeing to a fairly generous settlement. If I didn't do it they would take it out of the administration in the Legislature. I suppose I have lined up 15 to 20 votes in that way."

This is typical of the way that some politicians have to be "taken care of."

Some of our young politicians would get a rude shock if they knew how frankly their failings are discussed by the elder leaders.

### SEEKING WELL QUALIFIED MEN

For instance, it is well known that Senator Walsh would very much like to recommend some keen, able and courageous young Democratic lawyer for the office of United States district attorney here. He thinks that aggressive youth would be an advantage in that office.

Some friends of the Senator were discussing possible candidates to recommend. They finally came down to three names—all young lawyers less than 40 years of age.

Post 7/23/33

# HUB LACKS IN NEW LEADERS

## Too Many Young Men Prefer Short-Cuts in Politics---Some Without Real Qualifications for Office

BY JOHN BANTRY

"Governor," said a visitor a few days ago to Governor Ely, "You ought to find two or three keen, able young Boston Democrats for several of these big jobs. I mean young men of fine character and ability, good mixers, popular and yet not of the demagogue type. Young fellows, who are not in politics for money but who are really eager to pitch in and do a good job for the benefit of the party as well as the city. The way to build up the party is to enlist the services of youth—pick out the promising fellows, who have shown something outside of politics, been successful in business or the professions and have gained the respect and confidence of all who know them."

"Fine," replied the Governor. "Those are just the sort of men I do want to find. There are certain positions that need the men with the qualifications you have described. Now, just write down the names of three or four young men of that type and I'll look them up."

The visitor hesitated. He thought a bit and then confessed that, just at the moment, he had no one in mind. In fact, he couldn't suggest one name that would fill the bill. No doubt there were such young fellows as he had described, but personally he didn't know them.

Why has not Boston politics developed outstanding leaders among the young men? The old-timers, men with 30 years or more of political life—James M. Curley, John F. Fitzgerald, Martin M. Lomasney, and a dozen others of more or less prominence figure in the public mind as Boston's political leaders. They may not have the power with which the public credits them but there are no youthful aspirants who seem in line to push them off the stage.

Of the candidates for the mayoralty, all but one are men who have long been prominent in politics. Save for Acting Mayor McGrath, no fairly youthful candidate has even been mentioned. Yet the younger generation controls the polls. They have the votes but not the candidates.

It is amusing to read in New York and Washington papers about the "Curley machine" which "controls Boston." There never has been a Curley machine. If there had been one it would have been compelled to develop some young leaders. Mayor Curley has always been a lone fighter. He destroyed the Democratic city committee as a real organization by ignoring it. If there existed any Curley machine then the Mayor could easily dictate the choice of his successor. But he can't do it.

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AMERICAN 7/23/33

TRAVELER

# MAYOR CAN PUT CURB ON HIS SUCCESSOR

Finance Commission  
Masters of New  
City Budget

By BERNARD J. DOHERTY

Through a clause in the bill under which the State borrows \$30,000,000 for making loans to cities and towns, Mayor Curley has it within his power to subject his successor in office to almost complete financial supervision by the State Emergency Finance Commission.

#### FIN. COM. TO RULE

Under this bill, any city and town borrowing from the state under the five-year repayment plan would not be allowed to increase its budget or set up any new item without the express permission of the finance commission, during the time that the loan is outstanding.

In other words, if Boston should apply for and receive part of this \$30,000,000, which the State is financing through a six per cent tax on intangibles, the State commission would be masters of the city budget during the life of the loan.

The amount that each community can ask is limited to the increase in welfare costs between the year 1929 and 1932.

The bill permits cities and towns to borrow from other sources outside the Emergency Finance Commission if they don't care to submit to the strict supervision that the state loans will entail. Such loans, it is true, must have the approval of the commission, but they do not carry the handicap or blessing, as the case may be, in relation to future budgets.

#### POLITICIANS CHUCKLE

The politicians are chuckling over a situation though which permits the mayor to place a strict check by the state commission on the finances of the city during the whole or part of the incumbency of the incoming chief magistrate.

The state commission will sit today and tomorrow to pass on various phases of the new law which they will administer. City Solicitor Joseph W. Bartlett of Newton is chairman of this commission.

#### Welcome Home, Mr. Mayor!

MAYOR CURLEY and his family arrive home this evening from a trip to Europe.

We are always glad to see the mayor get away for a rest and glad to see him back again. The work of the mayoralty is a job that might drive a less vigorous man mad. We know of no man, whatever his job, who works harder than Mayor Curley. Any one who has observed him at his office knows the grind of his day. Handling of city affairs, the tragic plight of some poor widow, the entreaties of a down-and-outer making a touch, a conference of department heads, the financing of city projects, one story after another pours into his ears and with astonishing skill the mayor disposes of the problems. From personal observation, we do not envy him his job.

So we are glad that he can get away from it all for a while. A tour such as he has just made restores his energy for further labor. The city should benefit by it. Further, these trips add to an already broad vision.

Finally, we would not let the opportunity pass to congratulate publicly Acting-Mayor McGrath who, with his usual dignity and quiet efficiency, has conducted the affairs of the office during the mayor's absence.

HERALD 7/24/33

# PRESIDENT PICKS POST FOR CURLEY

White House Silent on Appointment but Thinks Mayor Will Accept

[Special Dispatch to The Herald]

WASHINGTON, July 23 — President Roosevelt has discovered a post for Mayor Curley of Boston, which he thinks will be entirely satisfactory to the mayor, and for which he believes the mayor is the ideal man, it was learned today.

Although absolute silence was maintained at the White House concerning the nature of the appointment, which will be proffered Curley on his return from Europe, both the President and Postmaster General Farley were confident the mayor would not spurn it as he spurned the Polish embassy.

WMT

RECORD

7/27/33

Former State Treasurer Frederick W. Mansfield, who polled 99,000 votes against Mayor Curley four years ago, is another to be taken most seriously.

So is "Teddy" Glynn, former fire commissioner and now chairman of the street commission, in the event he decides to run. He can well point to his vote of more than 42,000 as runner-up against Nichols in 1925 as proof of personal strength.

City Councillor Francis E. Kelly, in the Council for the past four years, is in the field as is State Senator "Joe" Langone, Jr. The Langone entry, with its appeal to the Italian vote, is hardly helpful to the quiet plans of Joseph A. Tomasello, the contractor, who has been putting in considerable organization work, although his candidacy is yet to be announced definitely.

Will "Dan" Coakley run? There is talk of it—although not by Coakley himself so far. He received a big vindication vote from Boston Democrats when he was elected to the Governor's Council. It is suggested he may rest content with that.

A Coakley entry would be particularly interesting to his friend "Joe" O'Connell after O'Connell headed the Suffolk group in the recent lawyers' petition for Coakley's reinstatement at the bar.

District Attorney Wm. J. Foley, with candidacy definitely announced, is a candidate of acknowledged political power, a State Senator prior to becoming public prosecutor for the biggest county in the State.

Post

## CURLEY HITS KILLING THE HUB RUN-OFF

Unfair to Boston, He  
Declares From  
Shipboard

### HAS BIG PLANS FOR CITY IMPROVEMENTS

Says Europe Has Eye  
on Roosevelt's  
New Deal

Interviewed by radio-telephone  
from the city room of the Boston  
Post while his ship was still over

1000 miles from the shores of the United States, Mayor Curley, from his stateroom in the S.S. Bremen, last night gave unqualified approval to the intensive probe of racketeers and crime in general, as set forth in legislation passed Saturday.

Rested and refreshed by his European tour, he said he was anxious to get back to Boston and his desk at City Hall. He outlined in brief plans for widespread improvements in Boston buildings, streets and fire protection, under the federal funds available. He struck out at the Republican city machine for blocking the run-off primary in Boston.

He described the anxiousness with which European statesmen were watching the operations of President Roosevelt in the unfolding of the "new deal." Glad to be in touch with "home" for the time, he talked at length and informally on many subjects interesting here.

#### New Court House

When asked what he would like to plan for Boston's share of the \$75,000,000 to be expended for public works, he said:

"I would like to see the funds allocated so that \$5,000,000 can be expended for a new courthouse which we need very much—\$1,000,000 for the East Boston Strandway—\$3,000,000 for the widening of Chelsea street—and other sums for the extension of high pressure water mains for fire protection extending south from the Arborway, Jamaica Plain, and in other places. I believe that the improvement of the South Boston Strandway needs \$400,000. Consideration of this problem will be one of my first duties when I return to my desk at City Hall."

Crime Study Needed  
The Mayor was informed of the crime

commission which the Governor has been given authority to appoint.

"This is a very excellent move," he said. "Such a commission can do work in suppressing and preventing crime which will benefit the State and the cities for many years to come. Such a probe is apparently very necessary at the present time and I give the move my unqualified approval."

He was told that the Legislature had killed the proposal of the Boston Democrats for a run-off primary, so that the heavily Democratic city might elect a Mayor this year of the same party.

"It certainly is unfair to treat the wishes of the majority of the population of the city in such a manner, merely to further selfish political ends," he said. "However, I did not expect that the result would be different, with the Boston Republican machine exercising such power in the Legislature. It was too bad for the people of Boston."

Then he turned from local subjects to a chat about his trip. He said there was little chance of Mussolini making a visit to America in the near future.

"I do not see how he possibly can come to America," he said. "I had a long conversation with him in Rome. He works longer and harder than any man I have ever seen. He is awake at dawn and is in his office until 7:30 every night.

#### Master of Government

"He is a master of government and of detail. He did not seem hopeful, when I conversed with him, that he would be able to leave his duties for many years to come. He, in common with all European statesmen, is vitally interested in what President Roosevelt is doing with economic problems.

"Over there every statesman I met is interested in the operation of the new deal. They are of the belief that if America succeeds in working out a plan of economic recovery, the rest of the world can follow suit. The President is looked to as a world leader. I am anxious to get back to hear and see for myself the events which have transpired since I left."

#### No Appointment Yet

Here the Mayor was asked: "Have you learned what federal appointment you may receive under the new deal?"

"No, nothing," was his answer. He could not say for sure when the boat was expected to dock in New York, but said he intended to come directly to Boston and not visit Washington before he came home.

He said he and his party were having a fine trip across and that the weather last night at sea was fine.

RECORD

7/24/33

## MAYORALTY FREE-FOR-ALL

If you listen closely, Dear Record Reader, you may hear a couple of chuckles.

One is from "Mal" Nichols. The other, coming from just a bit in the rear, is from "Charley" Innes. Both are pleased at the demise on Beacon Hill of the bill for a run-over primary for the Boston Mayoralty campaign.

Democratic aspirants for the Mayoralty wonder if "Mal" will repeat his 1925 feat and slip through a divided Democracy into the Mayor's chair the same as he did eight years ago. Remember the outcome of that 1925 vote for Mayor of Boston:

Malcolm Nichols .....	64,492
Theodore A. Glynn .....	42,687
Six other Democrats .....	74,886
<hr/>	

Total vote for Mayor ..... 182,065

Meaning that Nichols was elected Mayor although he polled only 35 per cent of the total vote cast.

With no runover primary to let the Democrats unite on their one or two stoutest candidates it is a Democratic free-for-all right up to the day of election and the Nichols-Innes chuckles are as natural as your telephone bill the first of the month.

Nichols, you know, Dear Reader, is Innes' man. Reports have come to hopeful Democratic ears of late that Nichols is "out" with "Bob" Bottomley. Some of the Democrats have tried to construe this as meaning a disagreement between Nichols and the Innes-Bottomley combination.

But some of the more astute Democrats have questioned whether this report was not pushed out from Innes quarters, just to mislead the Democrats a bit.

There are just as many Democrats positively or presumably out for the Mayoralty as there were when Nichols slid through in 1925.

Former Congressman "Joe" O'Connell, one of the most active Democratic aspirants, does not think Nichols can do it again. As far back as February of last year, when Nichols was introduced at the Massachusetts Avenue Association dinner as the next Mayor of Boston, O'Connell promptly announced his own candidacy. He has been keeping it warm ever since.

Is "Joe" O'Connell a vote-getter? Do you remember the 100,000 votes he polled—a sick man at that—for the Democratic nomination for U. S. Senator in 1930? It was a four-cornered fight — O'Connell, Marcus Coolidge, former Gov. Eugene N. Foss and former Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien and Coolidge won the nomination and election.

O'Connell, who has no love for O'Brien, blamed O'Brien for taking votes from O'Connell at that time. Now we see O'Connell and "Tom" O'Brien in another fight again, for O'Brien is one of the several Mayoralty aspirants.

O'Brien's friends whisper that Mayor Curley will endorse him. But O'Connell forces vehemently deny that. So does President Joseph McGrath of the City Council, acting Mayor during Curley's absence abroad.

Naturally McGrath denies it, being looked upon as a candidate himself. He is an active and aggressive campaigner, has gained much political experiences in the Legislature and the Council and knows as much about municipal affairs as the next man.

TRAVELER 7/25/33

## CURLEY DUE IN HUB TOMORROW

Expected at Back Bay at 5:50 P. M.—No Reception Here

Mayor Curley is now expected to reach the Back Bay station at 5:50 tomorrow afternoon according to word received from New York today.

His arrival home, earlier than had previously been expected, is to be made possible by the courtesy of Mayor O'Brien of New York. Mayor O'Brien will join with others in going down New York harbor to meet the Boston executive on the Bremen as he returns from Europe. Mayor O'Brien will then personally expedite the passage of the Curley party through the customs so they may get the 1 o'clock train from New York.

It had previously been anticipated that Mayor Curley might travel from New York to Boston by boat, reaching home Thursday night.

Plans for a reception to the mayor upon his arrival back in the city were cancelled by the mayor when he heard friends had arranged them. A demonstration in his honor is planned, however, as the Bremen steams into New York harbor from Bremen tomorrow morning.

Accompanied by his five children and the family's pastor, the Rev. Fr. James F. Kelly of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Jamaica Plain, the mayor sailed for Europe June 19 and has visited France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

## DISCREDITS REPORT OF POST FOR CURLEY

Farley Declares He Knows Nothing of Any Offer

Special Dispatch to the Globe

WASHINGTON, July 24—Reports that the Administration has at last found a job acceptable to Mayor Curley, for which he was represented as ideally fitted, received no substantiation this morning when presented to Postmaster General James A. Farley, dispenser of patronage for President Roosevelt.

Farley disclaimed knowledge of any new offer to the Boston Mayor. It is said that Mr. Farley has been informed that Curley will finish out his term as Mayor of Boston, ending next January, and that until that time an opening for him has not been seriously considered.

## AMERICAN CURLEY'S TRIP TALK ON AIR

An enthusiastic welcome home will be accorded Mayor Curley, his daughter and four sons when they arrive in Boston early tomorrow evening by train from New York, where their boat from Europe docks shortly before noon Wednesday.

The mayor will arrive between 6 and 7 p. m. At 8 p. m. he is scheduled to speak for 15 minutes over station WNAC concerning his trip to Europe.

The Curleys are aboard the North German Lloyd liner Bremen. It was first reported they would come to Boston from New York by boat. The radio engagement caused the mayor to switch to the train.

Microphones for the broadcast will be installed in the library of the Curley home in Jamaica Plain.

## TRAVELER 7/26/33 JEAN PARKER'S CASE DEFERRED

More Arrests Expected as Cambridge Raid Aftermath

Miss Jean Parker, Boston night club entertainer, arrested in a raid in which three other women and four men were taken into custody in a tenement house on Cambridge street, Cambridge, was arraigned in Cambridge court today, charged with conducting a disorderly house and with keeping and exposing liquor for sale.

The others, also arraigned, are Marion Evans, 33, of Peterboro street, a cashier; Bertha MacDougall, 35, of Columbus avenue, a pianist; Madeline A. Coleburn, 34, of Lorraine terrace; Sofie Andreozzi, 41, of Hyde Park avenue, Hyde Park, a storekeeper; Ralph Palma, 29, of Cambridge street, Cambridge, a chauffeur; William Vale, 42, of Cambridge street, Cambridge, a salesman, and Joseph Patsy, 50, of Seventh street, Cambridge, a laborer. They were charged with being idle and disorderly.

At the request of Joseph Breen, head of the Cambridge police vice squad, a continuance to Aug. 9 was granted. Breen said he expects more complaints and more arrests. The police say they found the house where the arrests were made fitted out like a night club.

Miss Parker gave the name of Jennie Farrell when arrested. The police say she is the woman who caused a stir in Boston recently when she sought to tell Mayor Curley the low-down on Boston vice conditions and alleged graft. Miss Parker was proprietor of several places in Boston closed by the police as nuisances. The police say she was the stormy petrel in the Garrett investigation.

## TRAVELER CURLEY WOULD PURGE SLUMS

Returning with Plan to Apply Berlin-Vienna Ideas Here

NEW YORK, July 27—Housing projects which have wiped out the slums in Vienna and Berlin would be instituted in Boston by Mayor Curley if the necessary legislation is passed, he stated today upon his arrival here with his family from a trip to Europe.

### IN SPLENDID HEALTH

He told of one building in Vienna equipped to house 1000 persons in which two-room apartments rented for \$5 a month. The mayor also spoke of his visits to the Pope and Premier Mussolini.

Soon after being brought ashore from quarantine in New York from the liner Bremen in a coast guard boat Mayor Curley and his party boarded the afternoon train for Boston. They have been away for six weeks. All were in splendid health.

When he was informed that a recent report was current to the effect that an important federal appointment awaited him in Washington, Curley smiled and said he had heard nothing about it. He said he had no plans for himself after he relinquishes office in January and added that the coming Boston mayoralty campaign would be a "wide open fight." Referring to the legislation which prevents him from succeeding himself as mayor he said:

"Some years ago they passed a law to get rid of me."

### DUCE WATCHING U. S.

Discussing his visit to the Pope, the mayor stated the Pontiff showed a great knowledge of industrial affairs and inquired about conditions in various American cities. He said that Mussolini showed keen interest in the recovery plans of President Roosevelt.

Of Germany he said that it seemed to him as though the people were as united behind Hitler as they ever were behind the Kaiser. He said he saw no sign of concerted action against the Jewry and said he felt that a large part of the trouble was due to communists.

### EUROPE FULLY ARMED

"It is hard to visit Europe and come back a pacifist," he declared. "They are talking peace, but every one is holding on to his gun."

A party of Bostonians came to this city to greet the mayor. They included Edmund L. Dolan, city treasurer; his brother, John J. Curley, Mr. and Mrs. Stanton R. White, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Tomasello and their daughter, Senator J. A. Langone, T. H. Green, Eugene McSweeney, Francis J. Finnegan, John Colman, James W. Reardon, and Emil E. Fuchs, owner of the Boston Braves.

HERALD

7/25/33

# FARLEY FEARS FOR MAYORALTY

Confers with the President  
Over Keeping Boston in  
Democratic Fold

## SEES DANGER IN G. O. P. VICTORY HERE

By CARTER FIELD

[From Herald Washington Bureau]

WASHINGTON, July 24—Gravely concerned over the mayoralty situation in Boston, President Roosevelt and Postmaster General Farley will hold a series of conferences in the next few weeks in the hope of inducing the Democrats of the Hub to abandon their normal pastime of having a Kilkenny battle calculated to throw victory at the election to the Republicans.

Roosevelt and Farley have nothing against ex-Mayor Nichols personally. Privately they do not doubt that he might make a very good mayor. That is not the point. What they are worried about primarily is that the election of a Republican mayor this fall would be construed all over the country as a sharp repudiation of President Roosevelt's administration. It would do more to hearten the Republicans for their big congressional fight next year than almost anything that the Roosevelt leaders can imagine.

### FEAR G. O. P. VICTORY

They realize that the Boston mayoralty election is supposed to be non-partisan, but they realize also that actually the fight for the mayoralty is not, and that victory of a Republican would be considered by the country as a whole just as much of a Republican victory as though the election were held in New York city, which makes no pretense of non-partisanship.

Postmaster General Farley is concerned about another angle. In the presidential campaign he would not concede a single state, even Vermont. This is part of his political strategy, which he has not changed in the slightest. He is terribly anxious for the Democrats to elect every possible candidate in every state, even for county and other local offices, because every such office held means just that much addition to the Democratic fighting forces at the next election. The elected officials become enthusiastic party workers, all of which contributes to the next victory.

### SEES BATTLE FOR WALSH

Farley views with considerable alarm, therefore, the prospect of Boston's city employes being active Republican workers in the congressional and senatorial election next year, not to mention the presidential election two years later. Incidentally, Farley is keenly appreciative of the fact that Senator David I. Walsh may be in for a hard battle next year. He wants very much for the

Democrats to hold every possible seat in the House. A Republican mayor and administration in Boston would be just that much added to Walsh's hurdles next year, and make more difficult the re-election of Democratic congressmen in the doubtful districts. Incidentally, he realizes that it would free a great deal of Republican effort to concentrate on the outside,

with Boston looked out for by the Nichols' crowd.

Naturally the postmaster general is anxious to avoid offending local sentiment. He is going to avoid if possible any outward appearance of "butting into" the affairs of the Boston democracy. He does not want to appear in the position of dictating, or having the President dictate, which is virtually the same thing, who the Democrats shall nominate.

### HOPE TO KEEP PEACE

But in the talks what Roosevelt and Farley both will have in the next few weeks with Senators Walsh and Coolidge, and with Mayor Curley after the mayor returns from Europe, every possible bit of pressure will be put on from here to avoid a factional fight and produce a situation where some Democrat can be elected mayor.

Farley realizes perfectly the feeling which exists between Curley and Walsh, and understands better than some Massachusetts Democrats, perhaps, the precise lines of cleavage in the Bay State democracy. But, with the full backing and active help of the President, he will make a herculean effort to force the picture of Walsh and Curley, not to mention some other Democrats in Boston, co-operating for the good of Roosevelt and the national party.

Farley just throws up his hands when he is asked who he thinks would make the strongest candidate for the Democrats to put up for mayor, for reasons very clear to every one, but there is considerable talk here about Representative John W. McCormack. The only objection the administration has to this is that McCormack has become very important in the House, being a member of the powerful ways and means committee, with an engaging personality, and a tireless worker. But the administration would far rather lose McCormack from the House, if it would appear that such a sacrifice would insure democratic victory, than run the chance of a Republican sweep in Boston.

# Post WELCOME FOR MAYOR CURLEY

Fire Boats and Band to  
Greet Him Thursday

With blaring bands, streaming fire-boats and cheering followers, Mayor Curley and his family will be given a royal welcome home when they return here Thursday morning following a six-week vacation trip to Europe, according to tentative plans launched last night by his friends.

According to the latest word received by City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan, head of the reception group, the Mayor and his five children will arrive at New York tomorrow on the North German Lloyd liner Bremen, probably about noon, and take the New York boat for Boston, arriving here about 8 o'clock Thursday morning.

As the New York boat comes up the harbor it will be met by city fireboats, which will give a demonstration of high-pressure pumping to send arcs of water across the sky. The Firemen's Band, together with several hundred friends of the Mayor, will go down the harbor on the institutions department steamer to escort him to the Atlantic avenue dock of the New York boat.

HERALD

## MAYOR AND CHILDREN ARRIVE TOMORROW

Curley Cancels Plans for Big Reception Here

Mayor Curley, his five children and their pastor, the Rev. Fr. James F. Kelly of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Jamaica Plain, will arrive in New York at noon tomorrow on the North German Lloyd liner Bremen from Bremen and will come to Boston by train, arriving about 6 P. M. at the Back Bay station.

The party sailed for Europe June 19 on the Italian liner Conte di Savoia and have visited Italy, the French Riviera, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

Plans for a big welcome here were ordered cancelled by the mayor yesterday when he was informed of a program arranged by friends.

## TRANSCRIPT Curley to Receive Noisy Welcome Home

Though Mayor Curley may not have approved elaborate welcome-home plans, submitted to him by radio, he is sure to receive a noisy demonstration Thursday night when he steps off the train at the Back Bay station with his five children and their pastor, Rev. Fr. James F. Kelly of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Jamaica Plain.

City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan announces that the mayor and his family will arrive at New York tomorrow on the North German liner Bremen, probably about noon, after a six weeks' tour abroad. The party sailed for Europe June 19 on the Italian liner Conte di Savoia and has visited Italy, the French Riviera, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

AMERICAN

7/26/33

## Curley Is Enthusiastic on Cheap Housing Plan

New York, July 26 (AP)—Mayor James M. Curley of Boston returned with his family from Europe today, enthusiastic about housing projects he had seen in Vienna and Berlin.

He said that if the necessary legislation existed in Massachusetts he would institute similar projects to wipe out the Boston slums. There was no such legislation, however, he added.

He told of one building in Vienna equipped to house 1000 persons in which two-room apartments rented for \$5 a month.

The Boston mayor said he had no plans for himself after he relinquishes office in January and added that the coming mayoralty campaign was a "wide-open fight."

Of the legislation which prevents him from succeeding himself as mayor he said:

"Some years ago they passed a law to get rid of me."

He told of his visits with the Pope and Mussolini.

Of Germany he said that it seemed to him the people were as

united behind Hitler as they ever were behind the Kaiser.

In Italy and Germany, he continued, it seemed that about one man out of three wore some sort of uniform.

"It is hard to visit Europe and come back a pacifist," he said. "They are talking peace, but everyone is holding on to his gun."

Mayor Curley traveled about Europe with his family for six weeks. When they arrived on the liner Bremen today they were transferred to a Coast Guard cutter and brought to the Battery. They arranged to take a noon, Eastern standard time, train for Boston, arriving there at 4:45 p. m.

ministration favored the selection of Leo Leary.

The indications then were that the choice of a darkhorse, possibly a man from the western part of the State, would be the solution. The same situation persists on the eve of Curley's return. It is conceivable that the mayor will at once resume his battle for Dolan, bringing the subject to a quick head and thus removing at least one big stumbling block to a clearing up of the patronage problem which has job-dispensers and hopefuls alike on the anxious seat.

The failure to date of Mayor Curley to receive the Federal post commensurate in importance with the pre-convention and election services he gave the Roosevelt cause has raised question as to the amount of influence he may wield in the patronage field generally. His refusal of appointment as ambassador to Poland, though delaying his becoming an important part in the Roosevelt regime, has not, on good authority, impaired his chances of subsequent reward for being practically a "one wolf" among Massachusetts Democrats in standing for Roosevelt long before the Chicago convention.

It is not considered likely, however, that the reward will come until after the first of January, when he will have completed his term of mayor. Should some important position of emergency arise, for which the President believed Curley particularly available, the mayor might be called into Federal service before January. The present temper of the Administration, however, is to abide the mayor's reason for declining the Warsaw post—his feeling that existing conditions require that he complete his term as the city's chief executive.

As to the question of importance of the mayor's position in relation to local patronage generally, Postmaster General James A. Farley appears to have given the answer in the following excerpt from his recent presentation of his views on patronage:

"Here is a problem that often comes up: Suppose the regular Democratic organization of a certain State was for Ritchie, or Smith, or Baker before the convention. Suppose, furthermore, that in that State some lone enthusiast stood up long before the convention and worked for Roosevelt. Before the election, however, the Democratic organization jumped on the Roosevelt bandwagon. Now I am equally besieged by the Democratic organization and the original Roosevelt volunteer. The Democratic organization still controls the State. What should I do?"

"Here is what I do: I confer with the Democratic organization. I say, 'You, of course, as the Democratic leaders, get the bulk of the patronage. But John Doe, who had the courage to stand up and cheer for Roosevelt in the first place, when all you other fellows were saying, 'Roosevelt is a nice fellow but he hasn't got any backbone'—John Doe had a right to some reward. You've got to recognize our obligations."

That stand would appear to include Mayor Curley quite definitely and significantly. In a State hostile to Roosevelt before the Chicago convention in June of 1932, the mayor, beyond all cavil, was a "lone enthusiast" for Roosevelt as against practically all other State leaders who went as a solid delegation pledged to the nomination of former Governor Alfred E. Smith.

## Muddle Over Revenue Post Still on as Mayor Comes Back

By William F. Furbush

Republicans who have been holding local Federal plums months longer than appeared likely when the new Administration assumed control, are looking for notice any time now to clear the decks for their Democratic successors. They have a hunch that the return home tonight of Mayor James M. Curley from his European vacation and elbow-touching with foreign potentates will be followed by a speeding-up of the distribution of party rewards within the gift of President Roosevelt.

As the Republicans understand the situation, one of the big factors contributing to the delay in shaking the job tree—aside from the Administration's deliberate holdup pending the launching of the recovery program—is a "row" over the selection of a new collector of internal revenue.

Before the mayor's departure for Europe an impasse already existed over the selection of a man to succeed Collector Thomas W. White, whose resignation was in President Roosevelt's hands back on March 2. Curley unswervingly insisted on the appointment of his friend, City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan; Senator David I. Walsh had his own choice, undisclosed; close associates of the Ad-

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what they called undesirable Jews, who, they claimed, were Communists plotting a revolution against the government," said the Mayor.

#### Mussolini Always Busy

The Mayor declared that he was received by Mussolini, although when he asked the American ambassador to Italy, Breckenridge Long, to arrange the appointment, the latter expressed his personal belief that there would not be a chance, as Il Duce was too busy to meet visitors, and had ordered his conferences restricted.

The Mayor declared that Premier Mussolini was working day and night and held the united confidence of the Italian people. "Since my visit of two years ago I noticed that fewer women are working in the fields, as the government had provided jobs for the men of the country.

#### Begging Outlawed

"Conditions have improved vastly in this short period. One no longer sees mendicants in Rome or the other Italian cities. Begging has been outlawed. Begging has been made a crime, and it is a good thing," said the Mayor.

He revealed that during his stay in Rome, his two youngest sons, George and Francis, were forced to remain in bed several days suffering from ptomaine poisoning, as a result of eating some fresh trout which they caught.

#### 50 Silver Rosaries

As souvenirs of the Vatican, where he found the Pope doing "the work of 100 men in this holy year," the Mayor brought back about 50 silver rosaries for his friends at City Hall, as well as a number of framed papal blessings.

To his brother, former City Treasurer John J. Curley, who met him at the boat with a box of longed-for Boston cigars, the Mayor presented a special gold watch which he obtained in Switzerland. For himself, the Mayor brought back a blue beret, which he wore on the boat, and for his great niece, Sally Curley, infant daughter of City Censor and Mrs. Stanton R. White, there was a beautiful German doll passed by the custom inspectors.

In Switzerland, the Mayor said, practically all the women were engaged in manual labor, working bare-footed in the fields, pitching hay, tending railroad crossings and performing other work which the men were doing in Italy.

Austria was most pathetic of the central European countries, he said, for there he found "more beggars than there are pan-handlers in the United States." Yet the authorities were doing a fine piece of work in cleaning out the slums and erecting modern housing communities where 10,000 people in Vienna alone are able to obtain two-room suites with gardens for as little as \$5 a month.

#### Housing in Berlin

Berlin had gone at the housing programme in a big way, the Mayor said, explaining that the German government had constructed blocks of rectangular apartments with gardens and playgrounds in the centre for 60,000 people at low rentals, the government feeling that it was receiving its big return in the health of the people.

Everywhere, he said, were great public works programmes carried out through the use of funds borrowed from the United States and other governments.

"About the last thing they think about is paying back. We could never get those debts except through another war, and it isn't worth it," said the Mayor.

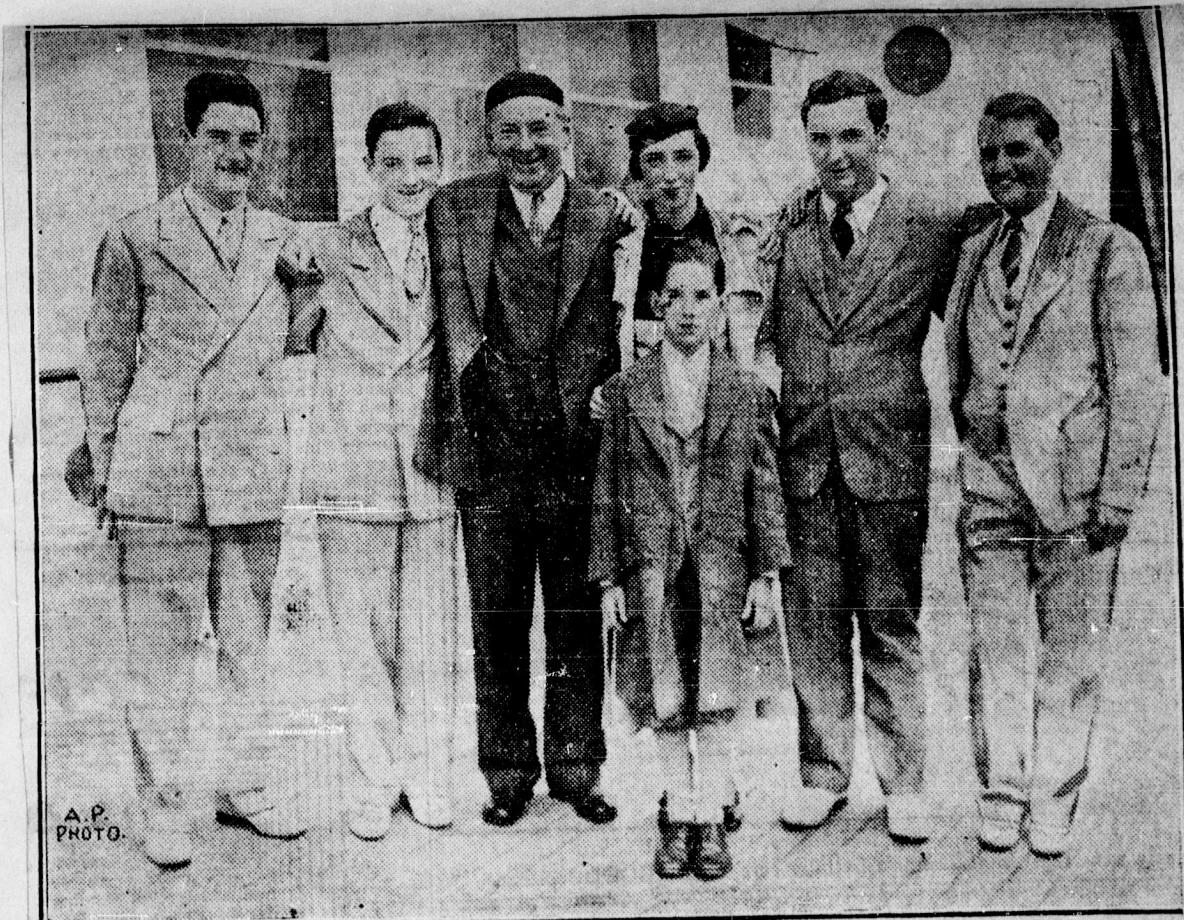
Then he added "It's hard to visit Europe today and come back a pacifist. They are all talking peace, but they keep their hands on their guns. Out of every three men you meet is in army uniform. Believe me, it's good to get back in God's country."

## Mayor Curley Sports a Beret



(Boston Herald-Associated Press Photo)  
Mayor James M. Curley with members of his family on arrival in New York yesterday aboard the Bremen. Left to right: Paul Curley, George Curley, the mayor, Mary Curley, Francis Curley (in front of Mary), and Leo Curley.

Post 7/27/33



A HAPPY FAMILY COMES BACK HOME  
Note these smiles worn by the Curley family as they arrive in New York aboard the Bremen. Note also the beret His Honor wears. Left to right: Paul, George, the Mayor, Miss Mary and Leo Curley and Walter Quinn. Francis, the Curley "baby" stands in front of Mary.

candidates in the field, for Boston is Democratic by more than 100,000 votes. But, of course, if a dozen or more Democrats insist on getting in, and refuse to get out, that's another story."

The Mayor has no intention of resigning his post before the November election. He asserted that he had no information regarding a federal appointment at the hands of President Roosevelt at this time. He proposes to see the President and turn over to him an illuminated papal blessing signed personally by the Pope, as soon as the framed document arrives from Rome.

#### Criticism of Hecht Unfair

The Mayor voiced his displeasure at the criticism hurled in his absence upon Chairman Simon E. Hecht and the overseers of the public welfare department. "Boston is doing more for its poor and unemployed than any other city I have visited, and I have been through Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Germany, as well as the 36 States through which I toured last year," the Mayor stated.

"It is unfair to criticise the public welfare department for Boston is doing a marvelous job. As for the public aid disbursements, I can see no decrease in our total outlay until such time as we can provide work and wages for those on the unemployment rolls," the Mayor said.

#### Not to Tax Churches

Regarding measures for the reduction of taxes, the Mayor vetoed the proposal for taxing some of the tax-exempt properties in the city, such as churches, schools, colleges, institutions

and government buildings, although he questioned the recent move by Harvard to obtain an abatement in its city tax payments from the State Board of Tax Appeal.

"It would be unfair to tax the churches," the Mayor explained, "particularly for the reason that they contribute indirectly to the treasury by maintaining schools and providing education for thousands of children."

#### Renew Subway Plea

In his effort to provide work for Boston's unemployed, the Mayor announced that he would start today to secure the approval of a public works programme, which, through federal aid and lower prices for materials, could be carried out at this time at a saving of 50 per cent for the taxpayers.

He declared that he would call upon the directors of the Elevated to agree to the construction of an \$8,000,000 subway under Huntington avenue from Copley square to Brookline Village as the first project to give work to 2000 veterans now on the soldiers' relief rolls at City Hall.

#### For Wading Pools

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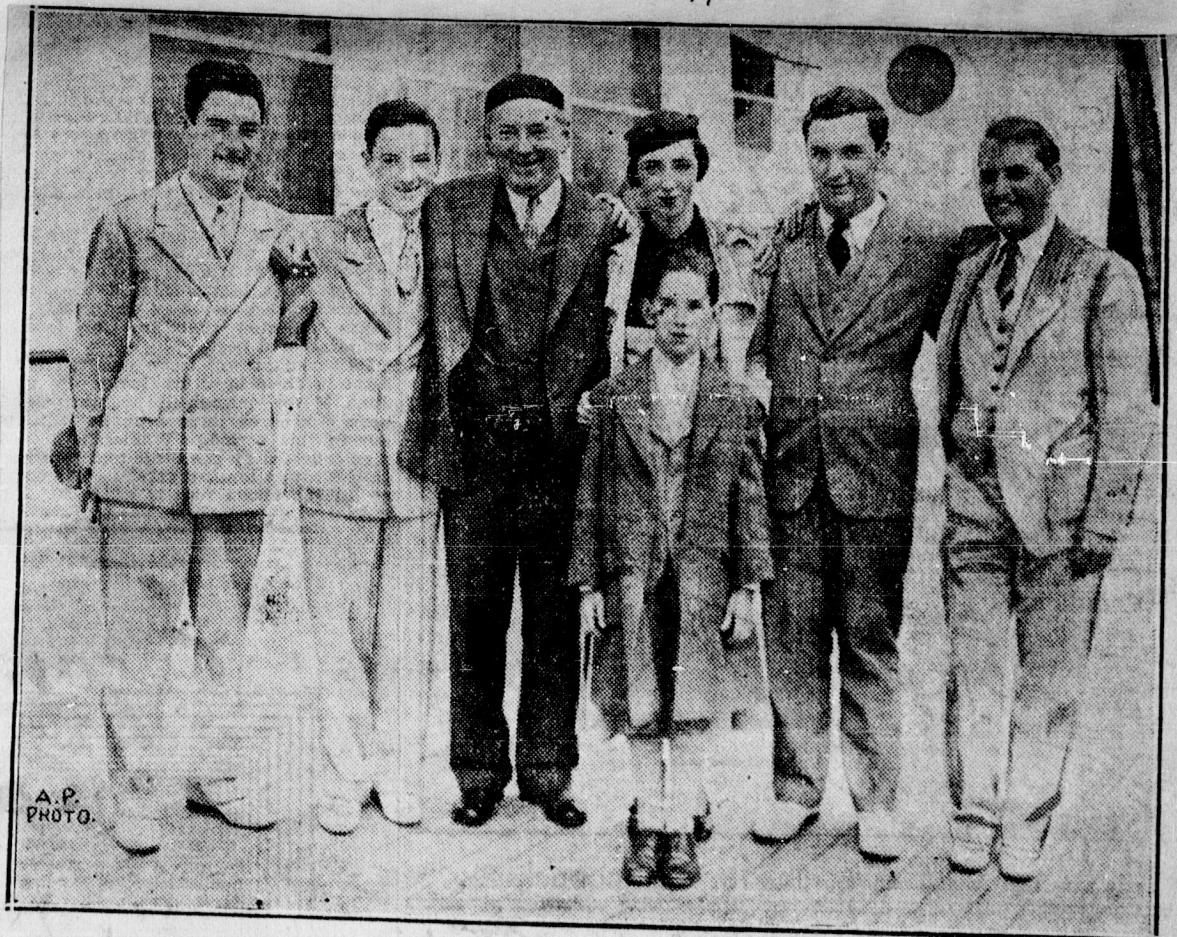


(Boston Herald-Associated Press Photo)

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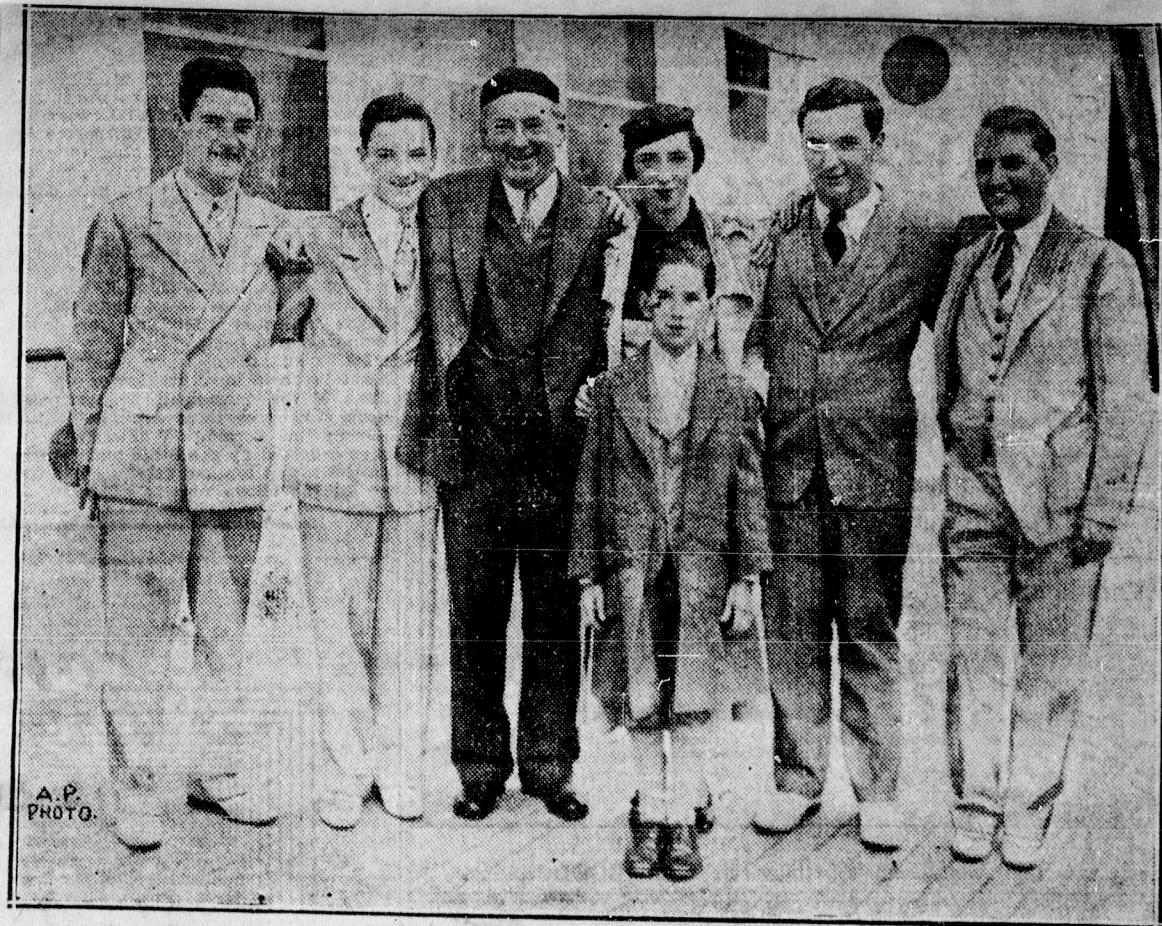


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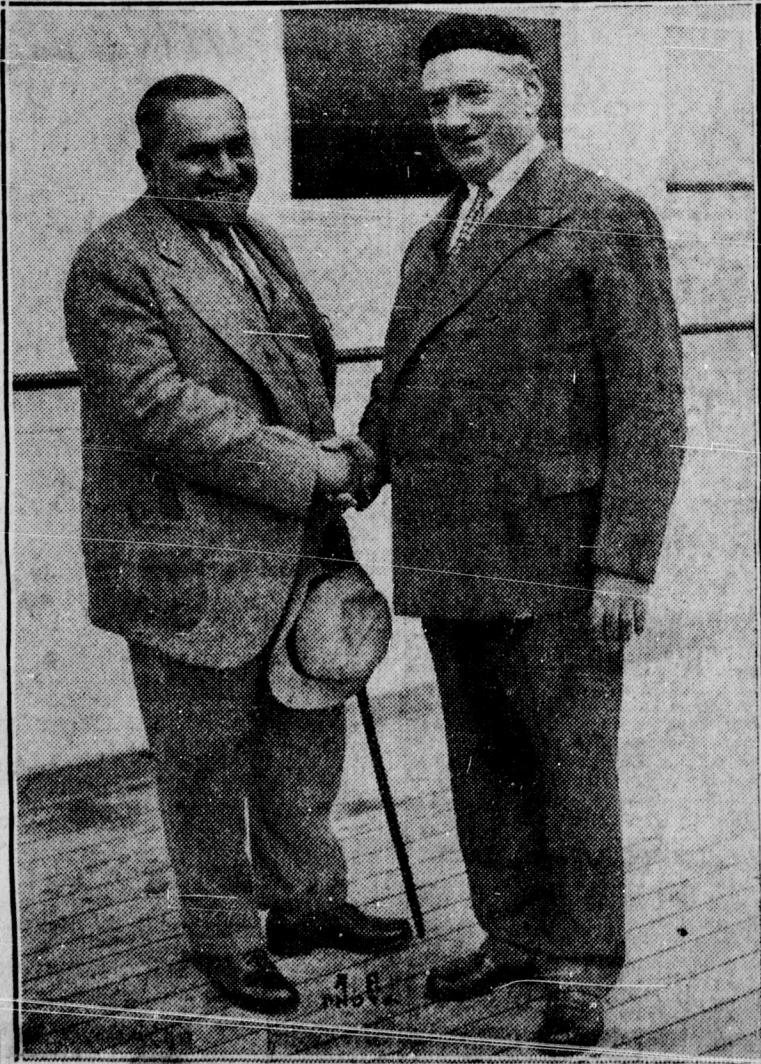
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# MAYOR HAPPY TO GET HOME

Will Renew Pleas for Subway Project, Wading Pools on City Sites; No Beggars in Italy; Wears Beret



WELCOME BACK HOME!

Judge Emil Fuchs, president of the Braves was at the pier when the Bremen reached New York yesterday to greet Mayor Curley, shown wearing a beret which seemed to please him mightily.

Declining to take a hand in the mayoralty campaign until he has had a chance to look over the field, Mayor Curley arrived home last

night at the end of a six-weeks' vacation tour through Central Europe. He was prepared to pitch into his work this morning at City Hall.

## GLAD TO GET BACK

To a group of several hundred admirers who met him at the Back Bay station as he stepped from the Yankee Clipper express last night, the Mayor declared that he was glad to get back to Boston.

"We should get down on our knees in thanksgiving that we live in God's country," he told the cheering crowd that met him in spite of the fact that he cancelled the plans that his friends had made for a royal reception.

There was a bigger crowd saw the Mayor's return in New York, for there motorcycle police escorted him at a fast clip through lower Broadway, where tens of thousands of people banked both sides of the canyon waiting to get a look at Wiley Post, round-the-world flier. The crowds cheered the Mayor and turned to leave until told by police that Post's parade had not even started.

## Leaves Ship at Quarantine

In his haste to get back home with his five children the Mayor did not wait for the North German Lloyd liner to dock. Through a White House courtesy he and his party were taken off the Bremen at quarantine and rushed to the Battery, where New York motorcycle police were waiting for the dash to the Grand Central Station to make connections with the first train to Boston.

He halted at the Back Bay Station only long enough to address two groups of loyal followers waiting to greet him in the train shed and in Dartmouth street in front of the station before stepping into his car and motoring directly to his home at Jamaica. There, through a special radio broadcasting set, he delivered his message of thanksgiving.

## Candidates Must Co-operate

In an interview with a Post reporter who met him aboard the Bremen in New York harbor, the Mayor indicated that he would participate in the mayoralty campaign provided the candidates in the running should agree to co-operate in clearing the muddle and abide by the decision which might be reached.

He scoffed at recent suggestions that Postmaster General James A. Farley, as chairman of the Democratic national committee, would come to Boston and make a special effort to ensure the election of a party candidate.

"Why, that's ridiculous," said the Mayor. "There is not a possibility in the world of 'Jim' injecting himself into a non-partisan election that has absolutely nothing to do with the national administration."

The Mayor declared that the Democratic candidates here should get together and agree on a standard-bearer, rather than jump into the race selfishly, without regard to the party, and divide the Democratic votes.

Contending that it was a difficult task to make candidates withdraw, the Mayor explained: "There is a kind of insanity that affects a man when he gets into a mayoralty fight and thinks in his own mind that he can be elected. It is almost impossible to get them out. You would need the combined fortunes of the Rothschilds and Morgans as an inducement to them in some cases."

## 100,000 Democratic Voters

Asked if it looked like another mayoralty victory for former Mayor Nichols in that event, the Mayor hastily replied: "Oh, I would not say that. We should be able to elect a Democratic

# Curley Hailed by Big Crowd at His Office

## Well Rested by Trip Abroad He Is Ready for Work with Doors Closed

When Mayor Curley alighted from his automobile in front of City Hall this morning, after a five weeks' absence, he found dozens of old friends awaiting him, some of them plain down-and-outers, looking for a dime or a quarter, and others merely anxious to demonstrate that they had not forgotten him. On the second floor fifty or more persons had been awaiting his arrival for an hour, but so quickly did he disappear within his office that greetings were few.

Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath was there to bid him welcome and as his office force gathered about him he hailed them with the remark that he had been informed that they had "stuck to the job well during his absence." He told them he was ready to work and expected them to keep on their "toes." Later, department heads began to call and the mayor at noon found himself so engrossed with friendly conversation that the large batch of bonds and papers which needed his signature remained untouched.

"Of course I am glad to be at home again," he told his visitors. "While we had a wonderful time and learned much, a few weeks abroad is about all a devoted American can stand at a time without yearning for the sight of his native land again. I understand that city affairs have gone along satisfactorily, that business is picking up and that the happy days are not far off."

### May Act on Mayoralty

One of the first questions asked the mayor was whether he had any suggestions for the mayoral contest. He smiled as he replied that the Democratic candidates should get together, forget their personal ambitions and choose the strongest man for victory. He intimated that, while he had entertained no desire to get into the contest, he might have something to say later in behalf of harmony.

Had the mayor sanctioned the presence of a large delegation from Boston to hail his arrival in New York yesterday, several hundred persons would have been there. Only a few friends made the trip with John J. Curley, his brother. They included Stanton R. White and Mrs. White, niece of the mayor; Edmund L. Dolan, city treasurer; Dr. Martin J. English, his family physician; Samuel Bickford, of Hayes-Bickford restaurants; Eugene McGraw, James W. Reardon, the mayor's former secretary; Joseph A. Tomasello, city contractor; Senator Joseph A. Langone, Councillor Thomas H. Green, Judge Emil Fuchs, president of the Boston Braves; John Coleman, Francis J. Finneran and William W. Saxe.

At the Back Bay station nearly a thousand persons were on hand to greet the mayor and his family. The mayor made a speech to them in the waiting room and on Dartmouth street before stepping into his automobile and motorizing to his home at Jamaicaway. There, through a special radio broadcasting set, he delivered a message to the public.

One of the first questions asked the mayor by reporters who boarded the liner

**Bremen at quarantine, New York harbor,** was whether he was considering any offer of a Federal appointment at this time. He replied that he had no information regarding any appointment and had no intention of resigning as mayor before the end of his term. Soon he will go to Washington and turn over to President Roosevelt an illuminated papal blessing signed personally by the Pope.

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### Regrets Welfare Action

That Mr. Curley regretted Acting Mayor McGrath's action on the public welfare department was indicated by his statement that "Boston is doing more for its poor and its unemployed than any other city I have visited, and I have been through Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Germany, as well as the thirty-six gardens for as little as \$5 a month.

States through which I toured last year. It is unfair to criticize the department. There will always be faults there until the Legislature sees fit to substitute a paid commission for the board of unpaid overseers who cannot give all of their time to the work."

Anxious to secure as much work as is possible for the unemployed before winter, the mayor said he would start at once in the effort to secure approval of the directors of the Boston Elevated Company to the Huntington avenue subway project which has been submitted to Governor Ely as one of the items in the city public works program to be considered under the National Recovery Act.

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Globe

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## MAYOR CURLEY, BACK FROM EUROPE, SPEAKS AT THE BACK BAY STATION



WHEN BOSTON'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE RETURNED HOME FROM TRIP ABROAD

are behind Italy because of Italy's adoption of the public works program. He said that Italy is free of mendicants and that the people, as a whole, are at work and contented.

It is obvious, he said, that if the machines in this country can supply all the Nation's needs in six months, there will also be six months' unemployment. Hence, he said, President Roosevelt's industrial recovery code, providing for shortening hours, raising wages, fixing fair prices and planned production must be adopted.

The alternative, he said, was the continuance of the dole system which he thought repugnant to Americans. He said American citizens prefer to earn wages through work than receive doles.

### Must Be Adopted

"The recommendations of President Roosevelt for the industrial recovery of the Nation cannot be delayed in adoption any longer without endangering our Government fabric," said Mayor Curley.

"With this industrial recovery pro-

gram in effect, there will be no danger. There should not be any delay. I sometimes question if the country could survive another winter such as the one we have just passed through."

He pointed out that practically all the resources of private charitable agencies had been exhausted, and that the cities out of taxes and bond issues, which, he said, had to be paid by future expenses must be borne by future generations. He explained that Boston up until July 1, had spent \$7,000,000 for public welfare.

He spoke favorably of the great housing projects in Germany and Austria that have been built in the last 10 years. He said the model tenements in Germany had been largely paid for on money borrowed from foreign countries, but that Austria had expended \$100,000,000 in the last 10 years on model tenements from money raised by direct taxation on an impoverished people.

He said that as a result of these housing projects, slum property was no longer desired and the health conditions in Vienna, for example, had never been better than in the last five years.

He mentioned also the many bathing pools in Vienna, saying that this may seem a revolutionary project but that anything which will improve community health is worthy of serious consideration.

HERALD

## MAYOR CURLEY PLANNING JOBS

Working on Plan for  
Huntington Ave.  
Subway

Back to work at his office today, Mayor Curley closed doors and denied himself to all callers. He stated there would be no appointments for the remainder of the week and that he would devote himself to the consideration of a public works program.

This program, the mayor stated, would be referred to the state administration for support and accord, and would be financed under the terms of the national industrial recovery act.

Before delving into the problem, Mayor Curley denied that he would attempt to name his successor. He said, "so far as I have been able to observe, no man has been successful in naming his successor to this office. I tried once—and once is enough." The mayor referred to the campaign of 1925, when he supported the losing fight waged by Theodore A. Glynn.

The mayor devoted much of his day to the Huntington avenue subway project that was turned down by Elevated officials last year. He is particularly ambitious to remove the names of many able-bodied men from the soldiers' relief rolls by the adoption of his subway plan.

His new idea for the subway is to have the terminus at Longwood avenue, and this afternoon held a conference with officials of the Elevated. The plan involves a sum estimated at \$8,500,000.

Ghob 7/27/33

# CURLEY NOT ATTEMPTING TO NAME SUCCESSOR

Devoting This Week to Starting Industrial Program,  
He Says on Return to Desk



JUDGE EMIL FUCHS (LEFT), OWNER OF THE BOSTON BRAVES, WELCOMES MAYOR CURLEY ON THE LATTER'S ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK

Mayor James M. Curley today returned to his desk at City Hall prepared to see no one for the remainder of the week except on matters pertaining to the starting of the industrial program in this State. He said he had no comment to make on the local political situation. What part, if any, he will play in the Mayoralty campaign was not indicated other than his statement that he could not name his successor and did not intend to attempt it.

He was informed that report had it that certain candidates expected his support and that they planned to visit the hall very soon to obtain it.

sible, the Mayor's indorsement. The Mayor then made his only political comment. It was as follows:

"So far as I have been able to observe, no man has ever succeeded in naming his successor in this office. I tried that once. Once was sufficient."

The Mayor said that his first act would be to consult Municipal Legislative Agent Abe Casson, who was waiting in the office of Mayor Curley. Mayor Curley said they would discuss the methods of starting the construction program which he was hopeful would lead to prosperity.

If the plan the Mayor has in mind is successful he believes that in 60 to 90 days it will mean employment for 5000 to 10,000 men and materially reduce the costs of public welfare.

more important, the Mayor.

Electrification of all railroads for a distance of at least 20 miles from Boston and in all cities from Boston and Mayor Curley. Not only, in his opinion, would the improvement be great, but it would also provide employment for many thousands of men, as well as doing away with much dust and noise.

Before he could enter his motor car to drive to his Jamaica home, the Mayor was compelled to make two short speeches, the first to a crowd solidly packed in the waiting room of the station and again to the gathering that blocked all traffic on Dartmouth st, despite the presence of more than a score of uniformed police officers.

Mayor Curley looked especially well after the trip which took him through Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Germany. The same was true of the members of his family and all were enthusiastic over the friendly treatment accorded throughout their holiday.

However, it was clearly evident from the remarks of the Mayor that one might well be pleased at being an American for though there has been and still is much to worry about in this country, yet it fails to compare with the evident distress in European countries.

The Mayor would not discuss politics other than to state that he agreed with the efforts being made by many Democrats to reduce the field of candidates next Fall, all trying to win the mayoralty as Democrats but thus cutting the vote and possibly permitting a Republican to win.

Enthusiastic supporters of the Mayor several days ago attempted to arrange for a large reception but word reached Mayor Curley aboard the North German Lloyd steamer Bremen and by radio telephone he ordered that all plans be cancelled.

To those gathered at the station he told of some of the distress he witnessed abroad. Then in the same words he used in the first year of his administration, he declared that work and wages were the only cure and that he was pleased to learn that during his absence great strides had been made by the Roosevelt Administration along those lines which said the Mayor, will do away with the dole, a tremendous burden on every city in the United States.

It was evident that the Mayor and members of his family were anxious to return home and just as quickly as it was possible for him to express his appreciation, he did so. With some of his friends, he then drove to Jamaica Plain where he prepared the radio address on his trip abroad which he delivered at 8 p m over Station WNAC.

## Public Works Plan

Speaking from the library of his Jamaica home, Mayor Curley told his radio audience that he submitted to Gov Ely seven weeks ago a program for public works construction in Boston and promised to devote his time in getting this program launched.

He said his tour of Italy had led to his discovery of public works construction going on in every city and town, thanks to Premier Mussolini's action three years ago in starting a huge public works program. He asserted that if America had done the same three years ago, there would be little, if any, depression today.

He said this was in keeping with his own theory of "work and war" which he had often advocated.

to shout a farewell to the mayor and the dual whistles of the Atlantic greyhound roared forth a parting salute as the customs cutter started for the Battery.

#### "GLAD TO BE HOME"

En route the mayor made many observations. "First, I'm thankful and glad to be back home," he said. "And do not allow anybody to question my sincerity."

Briefly tracing his trip, he described the excavations for ruins of the Roman empire which Premier Mussolini has been directing outside of Genoa for two years and effusively praised the work which has uncovered walls, arches and an arena.

A visit to Sorrento and Capri preceded a stay of five days in Rome during which the mayor and his sons, Francis and George, were stricken with ptomaine poisoning after eating fish. The children were quite ill for several days.

#### AUDIENCE WITH POPE

Describing his audience with the Pope, the mayor said that he was surprised at the intimate knowledge of His Holiness about the leading industrial cities of the United States. He displayed keen interest in business conditions in New York, Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago and Boston, and gave the mayor a half-hour conference followed by a 15-minute audience to his children.

"His Holiness appeared in excellent health and spirits," said the mayor, "although he is doing the work of almost 100 men."

Told by Ambassador Long that there was no chance of gaining an audience with Premier Mussolini, the mayor succeeded in making an appointment at 7:15 in the evening, which the premier advanced an hour.

"I commented on the lateness of the hour," declared the mayor, "but the premier told me that it was necessary to restrict the number of persons allowed to talk with him because of the fact that he is devoting practically his entire time to the solution of the problems of Italy and the world and will not allow his mind to be diverted by interviews with individuals."

"I praised the action of the premier in making Naples rather than Genoa the port of debarkation of steamers to Italy and he told me that it was his own idea and that Italy had already reaped great benefit. Tourists landing at Genoa were accustomed to ignore the chance of visiting Rome but with Naples the debarkation port, they immediately go to Rome.

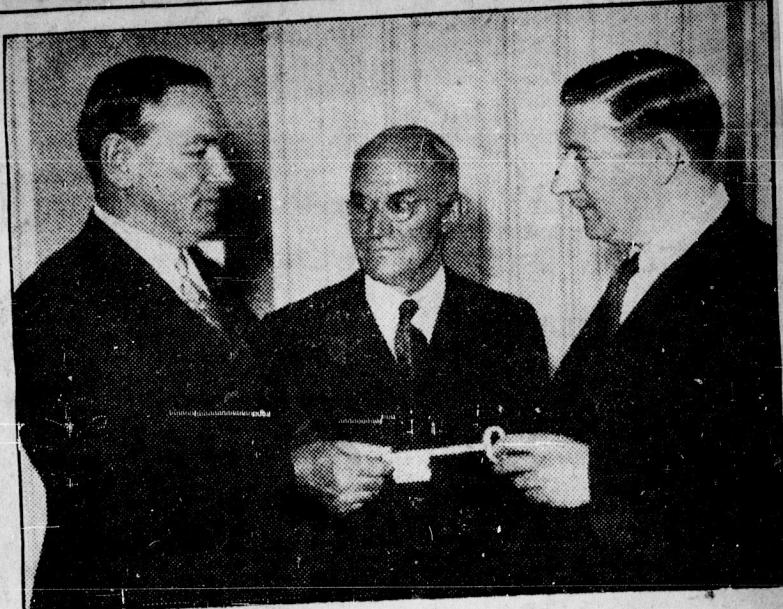
"Mussolini displayed keen interest in what President Roosevelt is doing and I told him that if Hoover had adopted in 1930 his policy of work and wages, we might not have been so successful in the 1932 election. Mussolini has aged a little since I saw him two years ago."

#### MUSSOLINI NOW POPULAR

Public sentiment toward him has strikingly changed. During my first visit to Italy he was looked on with distrust, derision and with a lack of confidence by many. Now everybody is for him. Italy is more united behind him than the country has ever been behind any other man.

"He is doing public works everywhere, building highways, laying sewers and water mains and carrying on a building construction program. I noticed particularly that there are far less women in the Italian fields than two years ago."

## Off to World Fair Contest



Mayor Curley, left, presenting Theodore "Teddy" R. McElroy, world's champion radio telegrapher, right, with a key to the city of Boston, and wishing him good luck in the forthcoming contest at the World's Fair. J. B. Rex, traffic manager of the Western Union Company, which is sponsoring McElroy's entry, is in the centre.

## TED TO DEFEND HIS WIRE TITLE

Former Traveler Telegrapher Gets Letter from Mayor

Though Mayor Curley announced when he returned to his desk today that he would see no callers, he did take the time to present Theodore "Teddy" R. McElroy, former Associated Press, Western Union, and former Boston Traveler telegraph operator, with a letter of introduction to the mayor of Chicago, where McElroy defends his title at the World's Fair, Aug. 4.

The mayor wished "Teddy" good luck and, as a further token, gave him a key to his native city—Boston.

McElroy, 35, and a resident of Evergreen street, Dorchester, was declared champion telegrapher in Chicago in 1922. His record was taking 56½ words a minute for a five-minute period. At that time he was a telegrapher for the Western Union in Boston and worked on many Boston papers.

At present "Teddy" represents the Heatilator Fireplace Company of Syracuse, N. Y., and the Majestic Building Company of Indiana.

Because "Teddy" was a Western Union man when he won the title, the company is sponsoring him at the forthcoming tournament at the fair. The entry list for the contest contains the names of more than 100 experts and "Teddy" will have to extend him-

self to defend his title. J. B. Rex, traffic manager for the Western Union Telegraph Company, will follow the contest at the fair.

Leaving City Hall, the genial "Teddy" promised the mayor and many of his old newspaper friends that he would keep the ribbon in Boston.

He then dashed to Gloucester, as the guest of Ted Kenyon and Capt. Ben Pine aboard the Gertrude A. Thebaud, the famous Gloucester fisherman that is also Chicago bound. "Teddy" will leave the ship at Portland, Me., and go overland to Chicago to finish his training and practice.

Globe

## CURLEY WELCOMED HOME FROM EUROPE

Mayor Finds More Distress Abroad Than Here

Back from six weeks in Europe, with his daughter Mary, sons Leo, Paul, George and Francis, and J. Walter Quinn, a friend, Mayor James M. Curley stepped to the platform of the Back Bay Station at 5:40 yesterday afternoon to receive a frenzied greeting from hundreds of close friends and admirers.

## CURLEY BERET FEATURES RETURN



(Boston Herald-Associated Press Photo)  
 Mayor James M. Curley with members of his family on arrival in New York yesterday aboard the Bremen. Left to right: Paul Curley, George Curley, the mayor, Mary Curley, Francis Curley (in front of Mary), and Leo Curley.

## Curley Returns from Europe Urging Single Welfare Head

By JAMES GOGGIN

Mayor Curley returned last night from a six weeks' vacation in Europe, convinced that the administrative faults of the public welfare department will continue until a single-salaried executive heads the department. He predicted with enthusiasm that the Roosevelt business recovery plan is certain to produce great benefit to the nation.

Looking the picture of health, as did his five children, Miss Mary Curley, Paul, Leo, George and Francis Curley and their companion, J. Walker Quinn, the mayor, welcomed in New York in the morning by 20 personal friends, stepped from a train at the Back Bay station just before 6 o'clock to receive the noisy greeting of a gathering of 500.

Brief expressions of satisfaction to be back in Boston, made inside and outside the station, were coupled with high praise of the United States as the best country in the world in which to live.

### BACK AT POST TODAY

The mayor intends to resume his official duties this morning, relieving Acting Mayor Joseph McGrath, whose period of mayoral service has demanded practically all of his time during the absence of Curley.

That the mayor was kept well informed of happenings in Boston during his tour of Italy, Switzerland, Austria and Germany, was evident from his frank admission of knowledge of the welfare situation found by

and by familiarity with other municipal affairs.

He declined to discuss in detail the welfare issue until he has had opportunity to gather the facts, but without specific reference to the McGrath investigation, he said:

There will always be trouble with the welfare department until we have a single commissioner in charge of it. I have twice asked the Legislature to create this position, but in successive years the request for necessary legislation has been refused. Until we are granted the consideration which we should have, conditions which draw criticism are bound to continue.

Personally I regret exceedingly that there is any criticism of the manner in which Boston has handled the public welfare problem. I know that throughout the country Boston has an enviable reputation for the very commendable manner in which we have cared for our welfare problem. I dislike to have anything mar that record.

Touching on the approaching mayoralty campaign, Curley declared that he could conceive of no genuine cause for alarm about the probability of the election of a Republican, but he quickly explained that he believes that there is not such grave danger of this eventuality as some Democrats profess to believe.

### "WHO'S RUNNING FOR MAYOR"

"Who's running, anyway?" asked the mayor. When told he chuckled and a broad grin illumined his face. "Boston should have the preferential primary which the Legislature refused," he added, "but even without it, a Democrat should be elected without any great trouble in a city which is so overwhelmingly Democratic."

He displayed keen interest on learning that President Roosevelt and Postmaster-General Farley are seriously concerned about the mayoralty situation.

It happened that the mayor's motor trip from the Battery in New York, yesterday, to Grand Central station started just after throngs had gathered on the sidewalks of lower Broadway to get a glimpse of Wiley Post, who last week established a new record for circling the world in an airplane.

### CHEERED IN NEW YORK

With sirens on motorcycles screaming, the cars bearing the mayor's party were shot at high speed through dense lines of pedestrians, many of whom recognized Curley as he passed. Others cheered in the belief the party was connected with Post.

His day was filled with interest. Soon after the steamer Bremen dropped anchor at quarantine, a boarding cutter, bearing a score of friends of the mayor, made fast to the liner.

Permission had been granted for the mayor and his children to leave the ship at quarantine and customs officials facilitated the examination of the baggage of the party.

The mayor welcomed his friends on the Bremen. They included his brother, John J. Curley, City Censor Stanton R. White and Mrs. White, niece of the mayor; City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan, Dr. Martin J. English, Samuel Bickford, Eugene McSweeney, James W. Reardon, Joseph A. Tomasello, Mrs. Tomasello, and Miss Ruth Tomasello, Senator Joseph A. Langone, Councilman Thomas H. Green, Judge Emil Fuchs, president of the Boston Braves; John Coleman, Francis J. Finnegan and William W. Saxe.

Fellow

AMERICAN 7/27/33

# CURLEY 'HANDS OFF' IN FIGHT FOR MAYOR

Back at City Hall and  
Plans Work for  
Thousands

Back at City Hall after a six weeks' vacation in Europe, Mayor Curley today saddened a number of prospective candidates to succeed him by indicating that he will take no part in the coming mayoralty campaign.

"So far as I have been able to observe," said the mayor, "no man has ever succeeded in naming his successor in this office. I tried that once. Once is sufficient."

Among the disappointed candidates are Joseph McGrath, president of the City Council and acting mayor while Curley was away; Theodore A. Glynn, chairman of the street commission; Joseph F. O'Connell, former congressman, and Thomas C. O'Brien, former district attorney.

#### GETS BIG RECEPTION

Curley was accorded a reception by his office staff when he arrived. He was presented with a basket of flowers. When he got to his desk he found a cardboard model of City Hall, made by Frank A. Fagundes of 291 Broadway, South End.

Settling down to work, the mayor announced he would see no visitors for the balance of the week.

Curley went right to work on his \$40,000,000 municipal construction program.

He briefly conferred with McGrath, the acting mayor, and they discussed the program. Then the mayor called in Corporation Counsel Samuel Silverman and Abe Casson, municipal legislative agent, with a view to planning a start of the construction program immediately.

#### WORK FOR THOUSANDS

This program, Curley told the City Hall reporters he hoped, would prove a means of bringing back prosperity and employment to Boston.

If he succeeds in putting the program across, between 5000 and 10,000 Bostonians will be employed, starting in 60 or 90 days. This would take many workers off the welfare and soldiers' relief lists.

The first project of the \$40,000,000 construction program taken up

# JUST A PEACE PIPE



Mayor Curley startled city hall today when he appeared smoking a pipe. James Michael has been doing unusual things since his return from Europe. First he sported a beret now he produces the pipe. At his home he frequently smokes a pipe, but seldom in public. (Boston American photo.)

by the mayor was the proposed \$8,500,000 subway extension under Huntington ave. from Copley sq. to Longwood ave.

This is a proposition designed to be aided by federal funds and one which Curley contends will give 3000 men employment for three years and which will result in an annual saving of \$700,000 in soldiers' relief.

On this project, Col. Thomas F. Sullivan, chairman of the transit commission, conferred with the mayor and advised that his department is ready to proceed immediately.

The mayor then communicated with H. Ware Barnum, counsel for the Elevated trustees; Fred L. Snow, counsel for the Elevated, and James Richards of the Elevated board of directors, and asked a conference later on the subway project.

#### POOLS FOR CHILDREN

He also called a conference of the City Council for 1 p. m. next Monday to discuss the same project and make plans for rushing it through.

RECORD

7/27/33



### Rivalry

flaring in Europe makes it necessary for U. S. to adopt "Be Prepared" motto, Mayor James M. Curley said on return yesterday aboard S.S. Bremen. L. to r., George, Paul, Mary, His Honor, Francis and Leo. Family came to Boston by train.

RECORD 7/27/33



### Business

of Boston took up Mayor Curley's time last night when he reached his Arborway home after the European trip. His secretary John Hoy is taking dictation.

RECORD

7/27/33

# THRONG WELCOMES CURLEY BACK HOME

By BERT BROCKBANK

Welcomed back home after his tour abroad by a cheering throng assembled at the Back Bay station last night, Mayor Curley issued a ringing appeal for every loyal citizen to go solidly behind President Roosevelt and the National Industrial Recovery Act.

"It is imperative for the good of the individual citizen and for the security of the nation that President Roosevelt be accorded the united support and co-operation of all true citizens to insure the success of this vast and far-reaching measure, which restores the opportunity for employment, happiness and prosperity," he said.

"I feel sure that the employers and workers of Boston will set an example of loyalty to the na-

tion in giving the President's national recovery program the fullest support."

Mobbed by the enthusiastic crowd as he stepped to the platform, it was with great difficulty that police cleared sufficient space for

**Mayor Curley** the mayor and his party to make their way to the upper waiting room, where another roar of cheers greeted him.

While he posed with his children for the news photographers he satisfied reiterated shouts for a speech with a brief expression of his pleasure at being back home once more.

"I bring you a word of encouragement," he said. "During our tour throughout European countries I could not help but be impressed by the realization that we in America have suffered far less from the depression than foreign nations. Every American citizen should thank God today that he is living in these United States."

## BRONZED BY SUN

Bronzed by sun and wind and refreshed after a pleasant return voyage, the mayor and his family presented a picture of health. Outside the station police fought back the crowds as the party entered

cars and were whisked away to the Curley home in Jamaica Way.

There, after dinner, before a microphone installed in the library, the mayor told a Boston and New England radio audience of his experiences abroad and of the valuable lessons he had learned from it.

In an interview aboard the train shortly before it arrived in Boston, Mayor Curley declared that "Be Prepared" was the motto this country must adopt in all its fullness. He told of bitter rivalries flaring in Europe, the piling up of huge armaments for future warfare, and said the pacifists here who urged further slashes in America's defenses were committing a grave error.

## SEES WAR DANGER

"The idea of pacifism cannot be entertained by the people of this country as long as conditions are as acute as they are in Europe today," the mayor said. "While our pacifists talk of restricting armaments, everybody in Europe is holding on to his guns."

Turning again to economic conditions, the mayor said:

"Americans have suffered during the past three winters, but, provided each will do his or her part to facilitate the adoption of the President's public works program, there will be no occasion for another winter of depression and misery. Present unemployment can be speedily terminated, provided we have the faith and courage of President Roosevelt, who has pointed the way back to normal conditions."

The mayoral party was given an enthusiastic reception when the liner Bremen dropped anchor at Quarantine in the lower New York bay shortly before noon. A revenue cutter with a large delegation of Boston friends was waiting to greet the mayor.

## ROUSING SEND-OFF

The courtesies of the port were extended to Boston's chief executive, and after a rousing send-off from officers and passengers of the Bremen, he and his party were taken aboard the cutter. Fast time was made to the battery, where a police escort was awaiting to pilot the party to the Grand Central Station.

In the compartment on the train, surrounded by his children, Mary Leo, Paul, George and Francis, the mayor had an opportunity to speak of his European trip. He referred with feeling to the receptions accorded him by the Pope, Premier Mussolini and Nazi officials in Germany. He lauded the flight of Air Minister Italo Balbo and his fliers.

While in Austria he paid special attention to the housing situation.

"I saw one building in Vienna," he said, "equipped to house 1000 persons in which two-room apartments rented for as low as \$5 a month. If the necessary legislation existed in Massachusetts, I would institute similar projects to wipe out Boston's slums."

The mayor expects to be back at his desk in city hall today.

*N-ERALD 7/28/33*  
**NICHOLS-CURLEY  
DEAL IS CHARGED**

## Secret Allies, Says Mansfield Opening the City Campaign

Frederick W. Mansfield, candidate for mayor, charged Mayor Curley last night with being the secret political ally of former Mayor Nichols and with being responsible for Mayor Nichols's election in 1925.

Mayor Curley, he said, is "the unwilling incumbent of the office of mayor" who is ambitious to obtain a federal office "in order that he might run out on the city that has been sacked, pillaged, exploited and almost ruined."

Charging him with reckless, extravagant and wasteful policies which forced the reductions of salaries of city and county employes, he declared Curley this year will support Nichols as candidate for the mayoralty.

The Mansfield statement, delivered in a public address, was the first savage blast of the mayoralty campaign here.

Describing the "back scratching game" which he charged Curley and Nichols have played for eight years, Mansfield declared that with the aid of a "puppet candidate" Curley had succeeded in electing Nichols in 1925 and that the political debt thus incurred was paid to Curley by favors during the following four years.

His attack on Curley was the high point of his address. In twitting him on his failure to gain a federal appointment, Mansfield said:

"Four years ago my opponent was Mayor Curley, the present and probably the now unwilling incumbent of the office of mayor. I am unwilling because it is known that he is

Q HOBIE 7/28/33

# \$23,500,000 FOR WORK IN BOSTON

## Mayor Lays Out Projects Under Recovery Act

Following a conference yesterday with heads of city departments and officials of the Boston Elevated, Mayor Curley prepared a list of the projects that the city of Boston desires to proceed with under the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 366 of the acts of 1933 and the National Industrial Recovery act. By the terms of the act the Federal Government furnishes money for the projects as authorized, but 70 percent of the cost is in the form of a long term, low interest loan. Under the terms of the Federal act all money must go for labor and materials . . . none for land takings.

Wherever new building is called for the city proposes to and in fact must do its building on land it already owns. The program plan which is headed by the Huntington a. subway from Copley sq to Longwood av at a cost of \$8,500,000, in all totals \$23,500,000.

### Many Approvals Required

The projects must be approved by the City Council which will receive the list on Monday; they must then be approved by the Mayor, the Emergency Finance Board, Governor Ely and finally by the Federal Government.

The Mayor yesterday consulted with James L. Richards and attorneys Frederick L. Snow and H. Ware Barnum of the Boston Elevated concerning the Huntington-av project. In the opinion of the Mayor the improvement would be a great one and in addition would give employment to 3000 men for three years, taking that number off the rolls of soldiers' relief and effect a saving of more than \$2,000,000 now given in relief. At the end of the conference the Mayor said: "I am of the opinion that the trustees of the Elevated road are favorably disposed toward the construction of the Huntington-av Subway Extension."

### Projects on List

The list of projects the Mayor will submit on Monday to the City Council:

Subway under Huntington av, from Copley sq to Longwood av; estimated cost, \$8,500,000.

Sewerage construction program consisting of covering brook courses in the city including Stony Brook and its Canterbury Branch in Dorchester and Hyde Park, Maywood's Brook in Roxbury, Lubeck Outlet in East Boston, Shepard's Brook in Brighton. Tenean

Creek in Dorchester, and other sewerage works; estimated cost, \$3,000,000.

Reconstruction of streets including the repaving of existing highways and arteries of traffic; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

New hospital buildings, being the completion of the construction program; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

High service water extension, including the construction of mains in the Dorchester, Roxbury and Beacon Hill sections of the city; estimated cost, \$800,000.

### \$1,500,000 for Strandway

South Boston Strandway improvements, consisting of the construction of retaining walls, approaches to beaches, walks, fountains and a plaza, together with the construction of a laundry building, solariums for women and children, an addition to Columbus Park Bathhouse, an addition to the Aquarium, additional parking areas and other improvements; estimated cost, \$1,500,000.

Playground and park improvements, including the construction of outdoor bathing pools and field houses in all sections of the city; estimated cost, \$1,200,000.

Construction of schools in West Roxbury and South Boston; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

Construction of buildings in Public Works Department; estimated cost, \$500,000.

Consolidation of Stations 9 and 10 in Police Department and new station houses in place of Stations 11 and 17; estimated cost, \$600,000.

Consolidation of various fire stations; estimated cost, \$600,000.

New prison building at Deer Island; estimated cost, \$800,000.

## JOSEPH F. O'CONNELL WADES INTO NICHOLS

Lashing out at Ex-Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols, Ex-Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell last night declared there is "no more chance of any of the bosses sending Mr Nichols back into office than there was of reelecting Mr Hoover last Fall."

Mr O'Connell, making a plea for his election as Mayor, addressed more than 400 young men in the auditorium of the Boston City Club under the auspices of the recently formed Young Men's Democratic Club of Boston.

Continuing his attack on Nichols, the speaker condemned the former Mayor's Administration, declaring that Nichols was running on a platform of "more sidewalks and lampposts" when the condition of the city demanded drastic economy.

Much of Mr O'Connell's speech was devoted to a condemnation of those who belittle politics and politicians. The speaker recalled that Samuel Adams whom he termed the "sparkplug of the American Revolution," was a politician.

POST

## Curley Wears a Beret

I've seen the caps of the jaunty Swiss  
And the turbans of Hindustan,  
The tam-o-shanters of Heiland fame  
And on Hooligan's head a can,  
I've seen Bey Souleyman in the ring  
Wear his fez as he kneels to pray,  
But I never thought I'd live to see  
Mr. Curley wear a beret.

\* \* \* \* \*

Imagine what Martin Lomasney thinks,  
Or the horror of Johnny Fitz,  
Or the whispers that run through Roxbury  
As Jimmy "puts on the Ritz."  
I could stand Rocky Stone in a stovepipe hat  
Or Bull Martin crowned Queen of the May,  
But I never thought I'd live to see  
James Michael wear a beret.

\* \* \* \* \*

Park avenue may greet him with huzzahs  
And Beacon Hill kneel at his feet,  
But what do you think they are saying tonight  
In the lunchrooms on Dudley street?  
And if Roxbury's famed John L. was alive  
I wonder what he would say,  
For I never thought I'd live to see  
Mayor Curley wear a beret.

BILL MCKENNEY.

Post

7/28/33

# CURLEY AID TO NICHOLS IS CHARGED

Mansfield Declares the  
Ex-Mayor Is Mayor's  
Under-Cover Man

In a bitter attack upon the City Hall administration during the past 12 years, former State Treasurer Frederick W. Mansfield, candidate for Mayor in the coming election, last night named former Mayor Nichols as Mayor Curley's "under-cover" candidate.

## WON'T PICK ANYONE

He charged that the Mayor would put "puppet" candidates in the field to split the vote among the Democrats in an attempt to repeat the 1925 election, when, he claimed, the Mayor put former Fire Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn in the contest, though he was secretly supporting former Mayor Nichols.

The Mayor declined to comment on Mansfield's radio address last night, asserting that he had not heard it, but earlier in the day he announced that he would not pick a candidate. "So far as I have been able to observe," the Mayor said, "no man has ever succeeded in naming his successor in this office. I tried that once; once was sufficient."

## Urge Others Withdraw

Mansfield called upon the other Democratic candidates to withdraw in his favor if they feared that the refusal of the Legislature to give Boston a run-off primary would result in the election of a Republican. He insisted that they should retire from the contest.

He quoted former Governor Fuller as naming "Innes, Bottomly and Goulston as the morning, afternoon and night Mayors who controlled the Nichols administration, usurping the functions of Mayor," and he asserted that the trio were again backing former Mayor Nichols.

## Mutual Back-Scratching

"The return from Europe of his co-worker in the vineyard, Mayor Curley, who recently signed the golden book in Berlin, after being royally entertained by members of Herr Hitler's cabinet, will not help former Mayor Nichols," asserted Mansfield.

"Mayor Curley and former Mayor Nichols have been indulging in a mutual back-scratching game, 'you scratch my back and I'll scratch your back.' When Mayor Curley checked out of office eight years ago, by the aid of his puppet candidate, Theodore A. Glynn, whom he never intended should be elected, Mr. Nichols became Mayor. Having been elected with the aid

of Mayor Curley, Nichols naturally was very kind to him during the four years that he was Mayor. He continued the same waste and extravagance in the administration of city affairs. Then Mayor Curley was re-elected, and during his four years now just expiring he, in his turn, has carried on the same reckless, extravagant and wasteful policies which have marked all his administrations and which were continued by Nichols.

"Now that Mayor Curley is about to retire, he is anxious to have Nichols return to City Hall. Of course, Mayor Curley cannot openly support Nichols. He will have some other candidate, but his real candidate and the man whom he wants to see elected is former Mayor Nichols."

## TRAVELIER

# Curley Homecoming Starts Hub Political Pot Boiling

Mansfield Launches Bitter Attack on Mayor and on  
Nichols — O'Connell Busy in His Campaign  
—Others Expected in Mayoralty Race

By DONALD R. WAUGH

Boston's political pot has begun to boil and it is now in the midst of the phase of candidates and would-be candidates jockeying for position. The city elects a mayor, 22 members of the city council, and members of the school committee in November without any primary or elimination vote.

## MANSFIELD ATTACKS

As if he had been waiting for the return home of Mayor Curley, ineligible under the city charter to run this year as a successor to himself, Frederick W. Mansfield, unsuccessful opponent of the mayor two years ago, has launched a scathing attack on the mayor and on former Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols, a candidate this year. Mansfield charges Curley with being a secret political ally of Nichols and that Mayor Curley is ambitious to obtain a federal office "in order that he might run out on the city that has been sacked, pillaged, exploited and almost ruined."

Nichols's brief reply was: "The only reliable portion of Mr. Mansfield's talk was where he quoted me as saying I stand for low taxes and high wages. The rest of what he said was merely a feverish midsummer night's dream."

## O'CONNELL IN FIELD

In addition to Nichols and Mansfield former Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell is already making an active campaign for the mayoralty and his advertising is broadcast through the city. Last night he spoke before the Young Men's Democratic Club of Boston in the Boston City Club, addressing some 400 men, of whom many were between the ages of 21 and 35. He said that if elected mayor he would be on the job all the time and that it is fallacious to argue that the city should have good streets and subways if these have to run by buildings closed for inability to pay taxes.

Mayor Curley says that he is going to keep his hands off the mayoralty situation, but close observers of local politics feel that when the heat of the battle is more intense the mayor's attitude will

politics will draw him into the debate actively.

## OTHERS IN RACE

Alonzo B. Cook, former state auditor; State Senator Joseph A. Langone and O'Connell have nomination papers in circulation. Dist.-Atty. Foley, former Dist.-Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien and Congressman John W. McCormack are among those mentioned as likely to go into the free-for-all.

President McGrath of the city council is also being watched as a potential mayoralty candidate.

The burden of Mansfield's address which opened the active part of his campaign, was that Mayor Curley has given the city an extravagant and wasteful administration and that the mayor will be behind Nichols secretly. He suggested Curley will again be a candidate in 1937.

"Watch the bold Curley and the servile Nichols," he said. "Mayor Curley and former Mayor Nichols have been indulging in a back-scratching game."

A number of candidates for the city council have announced themselves.

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7/28/33

# MANSFIELD HITS NICHOLS, MAYOR

## Starts Campaign With Radio Address

### Says Curley Wants to See Predecessor Elected

Beginning his campaign several weeks earlier than he had anticipated, Frederick W. Mansfield, former president of the Massachusetts Bar Association, who is running a second time for Mayor of Boston, last night in a radio speech declared that Ex-Mayor Malcolm Nichols is Mayor Curley's real, undercover candidate to succeed him in office.

"Of course," said Mr. Mansfield, "Curley cannot openly support Nichols. He will have some other candidate, but his real candidate whom he wants to see elected is Ex-Mayor Nichols."

Mr. Mansfield, after hitting at some of the alleged Mayoral candidates who supported the runoff primary measure, made a vigorous attack upon both Nichols and Curley.

He criticized the present Mayor for "being royally entertained by members of Herr Hitler's Cabinet" on his recent visit to Germany.

#### "Puppet Candidate"

His argument against Mr. Nichols was the charge that Nichols was a puppet candidate of Mayor Curley and "surprised even his alleged sponsor in getting elected," that he was a good friend of Curley's while in office and subservient to the famous "morning, afternoon and night Mayors" named by former Gov. Fuller, that he is now Curley's secret choice, and, finally, that Nichols "has stopped himself by the kind and character of his administration as Mayor of Boston and by the political bosses running him."

The burden of Mansfield's arguments against Mayor Curley was that, "like Louis XV, Curley's thought was 'after me the deluge,'" but that the Federal position he wanted and still wants was not to come, so he has been overtaken by his own deluge before he could manage "to run out on the city that has been sacked, pillaged, exploited, and almost ruined."

Mr. Mansfield blamed the Nichols and Curley administrations for the pay cuts received by city and county employees and declared that the cuts would have been absolutely unnecessary "had there been during the last eight years an administration conducted with due regard to the rights of all and not for the favored few."

The former opponent of Mayor Curley four years ago said he again considered the Mayor his real opponent this year. Indications were in the speech that he intends to rake the Curley administration during his campaign.

He claimed that city and county employees, as well as many persons who have failed to do business with the city, because "they are not in right."

with Curley and Nichols, "will" renounce the two for the waste and extravagance of their administrations, to say nothing of the methods of the bagmen who are known to every city employee."

#### Refers to Glynn

Mansfield said that Ex-Mayor Nichols was right in saying that he did not induce Theodore A. Glynn to oppose him in the contest for Mayor, but Mansfield said that Mayor Curley did.

Earlier in the day, Mayor Curley was informed that certain Mayoral candidates expected his support. He said, "So far as I have been able to observe, no man has ever succeeded in naming his successor in this office. I tried that once. Once was sufficient."

Last night the Mayor was asked if he had any comment to make on Mr. Mansfield's speech. He said he had not heard it and that he was not interested in hearing about it, "for my entire attention is now devoted to finding work for the unemployed and I cannot allow politics or any other personal affair to distract my attentions from this important matter."

In urging the other candidates to retire, Mr. Mansfield boasted that he is not afraid of the Nichols candidacy and can defeat him. He said that their battlecry that "Nichols must be stopped" is either a "comedy act or they are stricken." The cry, he said, was making Nichols out to be a much bigger man than he really is.

"If they are really afraid of him," said Mr. Mansfield, "I hasten to reassure them and to tell them and the voters of Boston that Nichols is not a threat. He hasn't the remotest chance of being again entrusted by the people of Boston with the administration of their important affairs."

"All of the nefarious methods of crooked politicians and all the schemes of political bosses cannot again deceive the people of this city and cannot bring about the election of former Mayor Nichols this year."

"Now that Mayor Curley is about to retire, he is anxious to have Nichols return to City Hall in order that there shall be no interruption in the long and tragic history of bad government in municipal affairs. Thus the back-scratching is alternated, and it is now Mayor Curley's turn to scratch Nichols' back—and scratch him back into the Mayor's chair, if he can possibly do it."

under the provisions of the national industrial recovery act.

In conference with James L. Richards, Frederick E. Snow and H. Ware Barnum and General Manager Edward Dana of the Elevated yesterday afternoon, the mayor claimed to perceive such a change in the attitude of these officials. He said: "I am of the opinion that the trustees of the Boston Elevated are favorably disposed toward the construction of the Huntington avenue subway extension."

Under the national recovery act, if subway construction should be approved, the federal government would contribute 30 per cent. of the cost and loan the remainder at a low rate of interest. This saving would be reflected in a rental, fixed by statute of 4½ per cent. of cost, slightly in excess of 30 per cent. of the percentage of cost of an underground transit route financed by a straight bond issue.

To this saving would be added the resultant effect of existing low prices of labor and materials. All of the favorable factors, the mayor believes, will induce the Elevated directors to reverse their decision of last year when they refused to approve the project because of the heavy additional fixed charge due to rent of a new route.

The subway appeals to the mayor as a project which will relieve the soldiers' relief rolls of many hundreds of recipients of public aid by providing employment for a period of two years as was done during the construction of the Kenmore square extension.

#### OTHER PROJECTS

In addition to the transit improvement the mayor's new program consists of these projects:

Sewerage construction consisting of covering brook courses such as Stony brook and its Canterbury branch in Dorchester and Hyde Park, Maywood's brook, Roxbury; Lubeck outlet, East Boston; Shepard's brook, Brighton, and Tenean creek, Dorchester, at an estimated cost of \$3,000,000.

Reconstruction of streets, \$2,000,000. Completion of building program at City Hospital, \$2,000,000.

Extension of high pressure water service in Dorchester, Roxbury and Beacon Hill, \$800,000.

Improvement of Strandway, South Boston, by construction of retaining walls, approaches to beaches, walks, fountains and plaza; building of a laundry and solaria for women and children at L street bathhouse, additions to Columbus park bathhouse and the aquarium and extending parking areas at a cost of \$1,500,000.

#### FOR PLAYGROUNDS

Playground and park improvements including outdoor bathing and wading pools and field houses in all parts of the city, \$1,200,000.

New school buildings in West Roxbury and South Boston, \$2,000,000.

New buildings in public works department, \$500,000.

Consolidation of police stations 9 and 10, Roxbury, and replacement of Dorchester and West Roxbury police stations, \$600,000.

Consolidation of fire stations, \$600,000.

New prison at Deer Island, \$800,000. City officials who advised the mayor of opportunities to expend large sums under the national financing plan also suggested many other projects to be incorporated in the construction program of the commonwealth.

## NEED

### Mayor Would Give Subway Project Preference in N. R. A. Program

An opportunity to save more than 30 per cent. in rental charges of a Huntington avenue subway between Copley square and Longwood avenue may influence directors of the Boston Elevated to approve the \$8,500,000 project to which Mayor Curley yesterday gave preference in a revised construction program, involving estimated expense of \$23,500,000, intended to be financed

of the commonwealth.

# Curley Calls Critics Unfair on City Costs

## Explains High Per Capita Expenditures by Services Rendered Here

Making use of the United States census figures to show that Boston, ninth in point of population in thirteen largest American cities listed, has much the largest expenditure per capita, the Boston Municipal Research Bureau aroused

the ire of Mayor Curley today and led work injustice.

him to make a lengthy statement in which he charged the bureau with "utter disregard for a just and equitable presentation of Boston's financial position."

The bureau evinces its satisfaction

that the census figures offer "startling corroboration" of the frequent statements

made from its headquarters that expenditures of the city of Boston are too large,

and reminds the public of its persistent recommendation that the costs be reduced.

The summary presented of municipal expenditures per capita covering the thirteen cities in the United States with populations over 500,000 are for 1931 and give the operation and maintenance costs of general departments, excluding public service enterprises, interest and outlays. The statement is made that the ranking would be the same for Boston if these exclusions had not been made. The summary follows:

Name of City	Expend. per Cap.
1—Boston	\$77.32
2—New York	65.48
3—Buffalo	65.27
4—Los Angeles	62.14
5—Detroit	59.74
6—Pittsburgh	59.16
7—Milwaukee	55.20
8—Cleveland	48.59
9—Philadelphia	47.68
10—San Francisco	47.00
11—Chicago	43.12
12—St. Louis	42.68
13—Baltimore	40.66

### Admits Variations

The Research Bureau admits it is true that variations in the number and extent of municipal activities as between individual cities might explain the relative rankings of cities other than Boston. Local expenditures, however, are so much higher than the second and third cities on the list alone, the bureau states that there is undoubtedly ample opportunity to reduce costs. "Certainly, the tax burden in Boston is much heavier than in other large cities," it is said.

Passing to the city tax rates on real estate, the Research Bureau sees further corroboration of Boston's high costs. It says the Census Bureau shows that about two-thirds of the revenues of city government arises from the general property tax. A summary from the studies of C. E. Rightor, former accountant of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, and recent controller of the city of Detroit, made in the last five years, including 1932, compares Boston's adjusted tax rates with those of the twelve other cities with populations of over 500,000 as follows:

Year	Adjusted Tax Rate Ave. 12 Cities	Boston's Rate	Boston's Rat.
1928	\$21.64	\$25.92	Second highest
1929	22.90	25.20	Fifth highest
1930	22.04	27.72	Highest
1931	22.95	28.35	Highest
1932	24.01	35.50	Highest

"Such a record for Boston, both as to city expenditures per capita, and general property tax rates, calls for trenchment comparable to that which has been occurring in private business, the bureau comments.

### Curley's Statement

Mayor Curley, on reading the Research Bureau's bulletin, declared that "comparative per capita figures pertaining to municipal financial statistics are interesting mathematical studies, but it is unwise to accept, without analysis, the conclusions which such figures supposedly indicate." He declares that such comparisons may be fairly made only when specific information respecting each city is at hand, and that unless allowances are made for variations due to territorial character, form of government, method of administration and extent of service rendered, per capita studies are bound to

be secured. The fact, however, that a large proportion of the population of surrounding cities and towns enters our city daily, makes it necessary for city departments to render service to a much larger population than that credited to the city when per capita figures are determined.

"Again, it should be remembered that Boston is one of the few large cities of the country to provide for the construction of new school buildings by direct taxation. Since 1916 appropriations of over \$40,000,000 have been included in the tax levy for this purpose.

"Boston is also one of the few cities of the country which has raised solely by taxation the vast amounts of money which it has been necessary to disburse since 1929 because of widespread unemployment. It is estimated that at the end of the current year Boston will have expended for public welfare relief during a period of five years in excess of \$35,000,000.

Boston, unlike other cities of the country, makes no charge for the removal and disposal of waste and the reconstruction of streets and sidewalks. It furnishes free to its citizens many services for which charges are imposed in other cities of the country.

"All of these facts must, of necessity, contribute to the high per capita expenditure record with which the city is charged. This fact which the bureau criticizes has been known to municipal authorities for years and as the Federal statistics indicate, is not peculiar alone to the year 1931.

### Tax Rate Study Misleading

To further mislead the citizens of the city concerning the financial structure of the city, the bureau makes use of adjusted tax-rate studies, prepared annually by Mr. C. E. Rightor of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research. In these studies Mr. Rightor, after showing the actual tax rate declared by the assessors of the various cities, makes an adjustment according to the ratio of the assessed value to the estimated true value.

Thus, in Boston, where assessed values are supposed to equal 100 per cent of the true value, the actual tax rate for 1932 and the adjusted rate, as shown by Mr. Rightor, are the same, namely, \$35.50. In Chicago, however, where assessed values are reported to be 37 per cent of the true values, the actual tax rate of \$67.40, assessed by the city, is adjusted by Mr. Rightor to a rate of \$24.84. Again, San Francisco, reporting assessed values to 45 per cent of the true values, and with a tax rate of \$39.60 in 1932, is shown in Mr. Rightor's table with an adjusted tax rate of \$17.82.

"It is interesting to note in this connection what Mr. Rightor himself has to say about this adjustment. On page 682 of the December, 1932, issue of the National Municipal Review, Mr. Rightor, in an article showing the comparative tax rates of 227 cities for the year 1932, in speaking of his adjustment ratio, writes: "This ratio, of course, is at best an estimate, however carefully determined, which means that the final column in the table is a theoretical rate." On page 705 of the December, 1931, issue of the same publication and writing on the same subject, Mr. Rightor says, "One conclusion may be drawn—a study of the comparative tax rates on real and personal property does not afford an ultimate test as to the effectiveness or economy of any city." Mr. Rightor then goes on to point out that in order to equitably compare cities, consideration must be given to "modifying factors" peculiar to the individual cities under comparison.

## Final Steps Taken on North End Prado

At a special meeting of the trustees of the George Robert White Fund this afternoon, final steps were taken in property damage adjustments concerned with the plans for construction of a "Prado" in the North End to open up a particularly congested section in the rear of Christ Church.

There are twenty parcels to be affected by this improvement of half an acre. Damage settlements had already been made with all but two owners who steadfastly refused to accept the trustees' offers. As the board must act without the benefit of the law on eminent domain, private adjustments must be made to assure the success of the undertaking. Today, these adjustments were completed.

Most of the property damages were settled on a basis of 10 per cent above the assessments. Several owners secured an advance of 25 per cent, and in the case of two or three holdings, valued at not more than \$1500, the trustees took into account the question of replacement and awarded as high as 400 per cent above assessment figures.

The trustees have been anxious to proceed under the plans of Arthur A. Shurtliff without further delay in order to provide work for the unemployed, and it is now certain that the work will not be further delayed. The total cost is estimated at approximately \$250,000, or about one year's income from the property in charge of the trustees.

Post

1/28/33

# MAYOR FOR 23 MILLION FOR WORKS

\$8,500,000 Huntington  
Ave. Subway His  
Chief Aim

Boston's public works construction programme calling for the expenditure of \$23,500,000 under the National Industrial Recovery Act was announced last night by Mayor Curley, following conferences with city department heads and representatives of the Boston Elevated railway.

## SUBWAY HIS CHIEF AIM

While the programme provides for the construction of an \$8,500,000 subway under Huntington avenue, new sewers, streets, hospitals, schools, consolidated police and fire stations, and wading pools in the tenement districts, the Mayor explained that the subway was the spearhead of his programme in that it would provide work for 3000 men for three years and at the same time save \$2,000,000 in soldiers' relief disbursements from the municipal treasury.

For this reason he immediately sought the approval of the directors of the Elevated who have for the past few years withheld their sanction for the Huntington avenue subway from Copley square to Longwood avenue, hesitating to pay the city rentals on a new line.

Attending the conference in the Mayor's office were James L. Richards of the El directors with Frederic E. Snow, counsel for the road, General Manager Edward Dana and H. Ware Barnum, counsel for the trustees.

## Thinks Trustees Favor Subway

After the meeting, the Mayor issued a statement asserting, "I am of the opinion that the trustees of the Boston Elevated Railway are favorably disposed towards the construction of the Huntington avenue subway extension."

The Mayor explained that the cost to the road would be lower if the subway were built now, stating that the federal government would contribute 30 per cent of the cost for labor and materials, and provide the remaining 70 per cent in the form of long-term loans bearing low interest rates.

Both the directors and the trustees of the road will hold meetings to consider the proposal to approve the construction job at this time.

The Mayor's entire programme of \$23,500,000, which he estimates will put between 5000 and 6000 men to work here in from 30 to 90 days, will be submitted to the City Council for approval at next Monday's meeting.

Before the city can start, however, it must also be approved then by the Mayor, the Governor, the State Emergency Finance Board, the federal advisory committee just named and lastly by the federal authorities at Washington, when the money will be advanced.

## Some Other Projects

The Mayor's sewerage construction programme would cost \$3,000,000 and consist of covering brook courses in the city including Stony Brook and its Canterbury branch at Dorchester and Hyde Park; Maywood's Brook, Roxbury, Lubec outlet, East Boston; Shepard's Brook, Brighton, and Tenean Creek, Dorchester.

For the erection of a central police station on city-owned land at Roxbury to consolidate the Dudley street and the Roxbury Crossing stations, as well as to erect new police stations for Fields Corner and West Roxbury, the Mayor had allowed \$600,000 in his programme.

A similar amount has been allowed for the consolidation of fire stations, particularly to place the apparatus of the South End in a central house for Engine 3 and Ladder 3 of 440 Harrison avenue, and Ladder 17 of 157 Harrison avenue.

As the federal government will contribute no money for the purchase of land, all the projects proposed by the Mayor would be erected on sites already owned by the city, he explained.

For the construction of bathing pools on abandoned school sites in the tenement districts and for park and playground improvements throughout the city, he has included an item of \$1,200,000.

The other projects in the programme include reconstruction of streets and traffic arteries, \$2,000,000; new buildings at the City Hospital, \$2,000,000; extension of the high pressure water mains at Beacon Hill, Roxbury and Dorchester, \$800,000; South Boston Strandway improvements, including retaining walls, beach approaches, solarium addition to the Columbus park bath house, aquarium, and construction of central bath laundry building, \$1,500,000; school buildings for West Roxbury and South Boston, \$2,000,000; public works building, Deer Island, \$800,000.

## \$879,000 FOR BOSTON

### Is Hub's Share of Federal Funds for Public Welfare Expenses

Boston will get \$879,000 as its share of the funds distributed for the first quarter of the year by the State Emergency Finance Board under the Kewis-Wagner act of Congress for federal relief to municipalities on account of public welfare expenses.

Chairman Joseph W. Bartlett of the board made this announcement yesterday afternoon, and said that more money will be given to the city from additional funds received from the federal government during the year.

Practically every city and town in the State will be allowed up to one-third of their welfare cost for the year. However, the board decided yesterday that the payments for the first quarter would amount to about 90 per cent of the one-third for the same period.

The amount to be awarded to the other cities and towns has not yet been accurately figured, according to Chairman Bartlett, but every effort will be made to have the distribution begin as soon as possible.

Because of particularly difficult financial problems which confront several of the cities and towns, certain of them

will be allotted all of money due them for the first quarter, based on their total one-third allowance. These places include Chicopee, Methuen, Adams, Berkley, Leicester, Millbury, Millville, Webster, Acushnet, Dracut, Franklin, Hinsdale, Mashpee, Medway, Merrimac, Oxford, Randolph, Southbridge and Wrentham. Clinton will be given \$30,000 because of extreme financial difficulties that amount being about 175 per cent of what they would get on the straight one-third basis.

## AMERICAN CURLEY MOVES TO SPEED NEW SUBWAY PLAN

Directors and trustees of the Boston Elevated will hold meetings to consider Mayor Curley's proposal that they approve the construction of an \$8,400,000 Huntington ave. subway from Copley sy. to Longwood ave. as the spearhead in his program to aid employment.

Sanction of the trustees and directors has been withheld for the past few years as they hesitated to pay the city rentals on a new line. Mayor Curley, however, called them into conference yesterday to explain his \$23,500,000 program of public works construction under the national recovery act and seek their approval of the subway project.

It was pointed out that the cost to the road would be lower if the subway were built now. The mayor explained the government would contribute 30 per cent. of the cost for labor and materials and provide the remaining 70 per cent in the form of long term loans bearing low interest rates.

It is estimated that the entire public works program will assure the placing of 5,000 to 6,000 men at work between the next 30 and 90 days. Mayor Curley will submit it to the City Council for approval at their next meeting.

After this approval is gained the program must be submitted for the approval of the mayor, the governor, the state emergency finance committee, the federal advisory committee and finally by federal authorities at Washington.

Ghobie 7/28/33

# MAYOR GIVEN MINIATURE OF CITY HALL



MAYOR CURLEY'S SECRETARY AND STAFF PRESENTING HIM WITH MINIATURE OF CITY HALL

*R*ECORD  
**Mayor Admires Miniature City Hall**



Mayor James M. Curley, refreshed by his European tour, shown at City Hall yesterday as he admired the miniature of the City Hall presented him by Frank A. Fagundes, of 219 Broadway, South Boston.

# Mansfield Hits Savagely for G. G. A. Backing

Prominent Lawyer Makes Bold Charge That Nichols Is Curley's Candidate

By Forrest P. Hull

It is now apparent that Frederick W. Mansfield regards the pre-campaign hours as precious for a renewal of the Good Government Association's indorsement for mayor. Hitting savagely at Mayor Curley and former Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols in a radio speech, Mr. Mansfield opened his campaign in a way to give the public much to talk about. Mansfield, of course, is anticipating surprise moves in the muddled situation, such as a possible agreement among certain Democrats to quit the field for an upstanding man who might win the favor of the G. G. A.

Four years ago Mr. Mansfield ran against Curley and captured more than 90,000 ballots. He claims that if the campaign had continued for a week longer he would have been the victor. He believes he is the logical candidate to make the fight against former Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols this year, and since the election of four years ago he has entertained the hope that a second indorsement by the Good Government Association would come to him this year. He has heard, of course, that the G. G. A. has been looking around for other men, such as Judge Walter L. Collins, Henry L. Shattuck and Judge Michael H. Sullivan.

#### Nichols-Curley Alliance

In his radio speech, Mr. Mansfield gave utterance to an impression which has gained much ground in the last few weeks, when he charged that Mayor Curley would like to see Mr. Nichols succeed him. The only evidence at City Hall that the mayor is playing with the Nichols faction has been the frequent appearance of Robert G. Bottomley at the mayoral office. Mr. Bottomley's errands, however, have been primarily those of a lawyer who is interested in the Cross-street widening. Mr. Mansfield makes use of the so-called Curley-Nichols alliance to point out the need of a new deal at City Hall for the benefit of the taxpayers and also to impress the public with the idea that he is not afraid of Nichols's candidacy.

That Mansfield's opening speech will attract wide attention and reflection goes without saying. There is much food for thought in it, especially at the time when leading Democrats are doing their utmost to reduce the muddle which has indicated that the contest will be a repetition of that of eight years ago unless the field can be cleared. Mansfield seeks to impress the leaders, and the public generally, with the thought that he is the man to make the fight against Nichols with clear-cut issues of fairness, honesty and economy in the administration of the city's business. He believes that if Nichols is elected there will be no change at City Hall.

#### Mansfield's Charge

He says:  
"Mayor Curley and former Mayor

Nichols have been indulging in a mutual back-scratching game. It has been a case of the old familiar 'you scratch my back and I'll scratch your back.' Thus, when Mayor Curley checked out of office eight years ago, by the aid of his puppet candidate for mayor, who he never intended should be elected, Mr. Nichols became mayor, receiving 64,000 votes—a small minority of the entire city vote. Having been elected with the aid of Mayor Curley, he naturally was very kind to him during the four years that he was mayor. He continued the same waste and extravagance in the administration of city affairs. Four years ago, when Nichols retired as mayor, Mr. Curley again became a candidate. I opposed him practically alone, and in a very short campaign received nearly 97,000 votes—33,000 more votes than Mayor Nichols received when he was elected. I am convinced that if my campaign had lasted only one week more, I would have been elected.

"But the point is that Mayor Curley was re-elected, and during his four years now just expiring he, in his turn, has carried on the same reckless, extravagant and wasteful policies which have marked all of his administrations and which were continued by Nichols when he was mayor. And now that Mayor Curley is about to retire, he is anxious to have Nichols return to City Hall in order that there shall be no interruption in the long and tragic history of bad government in municipal affairs. Thus the back-scratching has alternated, and it is now Mayor Curley's turn to scratch Nichols's back—and scratch him back into the mayor's chair, if he can possibly do it. Of course he cannot openly support Nichols. He will have some other candidate, but his real candidate and the man whom he wants to see elected is former Mayor Nichols."

## AMERICAN MAYORAL PAIR LASH NICHOLS

Former Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols was lashed by two candidates for the office of mayor in the coming election in addresses last night, with each declaring he had no chance to be returned to that office by the voters of the city.

Former Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell, speaking to more than 400 young men in the Boston City Club auditorium, under the auspices of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Boston, condemned the last Nichols' administration, and declared there was "no chance of the bosses sending Nichols back into office."

Frederick W. Mansfield, who was defeated by Mayor Curley in the last mayoralty election and has announced his candidacy for the coming contest, declared that Mayor Curley was the secret ally of Nichols, and charged that a deal had been arranged whereby Nichols would be supported by him.

# No Post Ready for Curley, Says Farley

Postmaster General Places His Choices for Plums Before President

By Oliver McKee, Jr.

#### Special to the Transcript:

Washington, July 28—Postmaster General Farley called at the White House about eleven o'clock and laid before the President his final selections on national patronage. These will include several diplomatic appointments. An effort has been made to fill most of the vacancies caused by the impending retirement of the political holdovers. Farley was asked for the Transcript whether Mayor James M. Curley of Boston will figure in the picture of future Federal appointments. His reply to the question indicated that Mr. Curley is not likely soon to be given any post.

Important appointments will be made by President Roosevelt before he leaves Washington. Posts to be filled include, for Massachusetts, the collectorship of internal revenue and the veterans advisory board. The latter will be made up of two representatives from the Veterans Bureau and three persons selected on the basis of recommendations from Bay State congressmen and senators, Veterans' organizations and other groups in the State. This advisory board will assist in making the adjustments in individual cases, principally the so-called group presumptive group with the view to humanizing the application of the economy act. It is hoped to have the boards in Massachusetts and other States begin work very soon as the Veterans Bureau is anxious to start the gigantic job of overhauling the system of veterans' compensation.

## BERETS CALL FOR SMILES

When you  
wear a  
beret, the  
thing to do  
is smile.  
Mayor Cur-  
ley nearly  
floored a  
contingent  
in New  
York when  
he stepped  
along the  
deck of the  
Bremen  
wearing  
this topper.



Ghobie

7/28/33

# CURLEY ASSAILS FIGURES ON HUB'S EXPENDITURES

tax rates on real and personal property does not afford an ultimate test as to the effectiveness or economy of any city.' Mr Rightor then goes on to point out that in order to equitably compare cities, consideration must be given to 'modifying factors' peculiar to the individual cities under comparison."

## Points Out That Research Bureau Fails to Mention City's High Rate Since 1917

Quoting from a report of the Federal Bureau of Census, the Municipal Research Bureau, in a bulletin released today, declares that the city of Boston, ninth in a list of 13 cities of more than 500,000 population, has the highest per capita expenditure.

Listing is given of per capita expenditure for 1931 and the cost in Boston is placed at \$77.32, as compared to New York, which is second high, at \$65.48, and Baltimore, which is 13th, with \$40.66. Adjusted tax rate figures are also given which shows an average for 12 cities of \$22.95 as against \$28.35 for Boston.

Under the National Industrial Recovery Act, it is pointed out that Boston has a maximum expenditure allowance of \$28,000,000 and any expenditure according to the Research Bureau will impose an "insupportable debt burden."

The attention of Mayor Curley was called to the Research Bureau bulletin and the Mayor gave out the following statement:

### Appreciates "Welcome Home"

"I deeply appreciate the 'Welcome Home' sentiments which undoubtedly actuated the bureau in preparing its latest effusion. I regret, however, that in preparing its bulletin the bureau has shown an utter disregard for a just and equitable presentation of Boston's financial position among the large cities of this country. Since the bureau includes 'Boston' in its official name, it would appear questionable judgment on the part of its officials to erroneously and illogically present conclusions concerning the city of the type incorporated in the bulletin released this day.

"The bureau very conveniently overlooks the fact, however, that the same Federal report indicates that extending as far back as 1917 the same situation, which the bureau now criticizes, existed, namely, that on a per capita basis, Boston reflects a high rate of expenditure.

"From a population standpoint, Boston is a city of 800,000 people, but from an expenditure standpoint, Boston is the center of a Metropolitan district of two millions of people. If the city merely was required to render service to its own inhabitants, there is no question but that a marked reduction in departmental expenditures could be secured. The fact, however, that a large proportion of the population of surrounding cities and towns enters our city daily makes it necessary for city departments to render service to a much larger population than that credited to the city when per capita figures are determined. Again, it should be remembered that Boston is one of the few large cities of the country to provide for the construction of new school buildings by direct taxation. Since 1916 appropriations of over \$40,000,000 have been included in the tax levy for this purpose. Boston

is also one of the few cities of the country which has raised solely by taxation the vast amounts of money which it has been necessary to disburse since 1929 because of widespread unemployment.

### Many Services Free

"It is estimated that at the end of the current year Boston will have expended for public welfare relief during a period of five years in excess of \$35,000,000. Boston, unlike other cities of the country, makes no charge for the removal and disposal of waste and the reconstruction of streets and sidewalks. It furnishes free to its citizens many services for which charges are imposed in other cities of the country. All of these facts must, of necessity, contribute to the high per capita expenditure record with which the city is charged. This fact, which the Bureau criticizes, has been known to municipal authorities for years, and as the Federal statistics indicate, is not peculiar alone to the year 1931.

"To further mislead the citizens concerning the financial structure of the city, the bureau makes use of adjusted tax-rate studies, prepared annually by Mr C. E. Rightor of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research. In these studies Mr Rightor, after showing the actual tax rate declared by the assessors of the various cities, makes an adjustment according to the ratio of the assessed value to the estimated true value. Thus, in Boston, where assessed values are supposed to equal 100 percent of the true value, the actual tax rate for 1932 and the adjusted rate, as shown by Mr Rightor, are the same, namely, \$35.50. In Chicago, however, where assessed values are reported to be 37 percent of the true value, the actual tax rate of \$65.40, assessed by the city, is adjusted by Mr Rightor to a rate of \$24.94. Again, San Francisco, reporting assessed values to be 45 percent of the true values, and with a tax rate of \$39.60 in 1932, is shown in Mr Rightor's table with an adjusted tax rate of \$17.82.

### Quotes Mr Rightor

"It is interesting to note in this connection that Mr Rightor himself has to say about this adjustment. On page 683 of the December 1932 issue of the National Municipal Review, Mr Rightor, in an article showing the comparative tax rates of 227 cities for the year 1932, in speaking of his adjustment ratio, writes, 'this ratio, of course, is at best an estimate, however, carefully determined, which means that the final column in the table is a theoretical rate.' On page 705 of the December, 1931, issue of the same publication and writing on the same subject Mr Rightor says, one conclusion may be drawn—a study of the comparative

## TRANSCRIPT Work in Boston for \$23,500,000 Is Mayor's Plan

In line with one phase of the recovery program, coming under the public works provisions, Mayor Curley will submit to the City Council next Monday a list of projects that would give employment to about 3000 men and cost in the vicinity of \$23,500,000 which could be borrowed from the Federal Government on the terms contained in the national legislation. The projects must be approved by the council, the mayor, the Emergency Finance Board, Governor Ely and finally by the Federal authorities. These are the projects which the mayor is ready to approve:

Subway under Huntington avenue from Copley square to Longwood avenue; estimated cost, \$8,500,000.

Sewerage construction program consisting of covering brook courses in the city including Stony Brook and its Canterbury branch in Dorchester and Hyde Park, Maywood's Brook in Roxbury, Lubec Outlet in East Boston, Shepard's Brook in Brighton, Tenean Creek in Dorchester and other sewerage works; estimated cost, \$3,000,000.

Reconstruction of streets including the repaving of existing highways and arteries of traffic; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

New hospital buildings, being the completion of the construction program; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

High service water extension including the construction of mains in the Dorchester, Roxbury and Beacon Hill sections of the city; estimated cost, \$800,000.

South Boston Strandway improvements, consisting of the construction of retaining walls, approaches to beaches, walks, fountains and a plaza, together with the construction of a laundry building, solariums for women and children, an addition to Columbus Park Bathhouse, an addition to the Aquarium, additional parking areas and other improvements; estimated cost, \$1,500,000.

Playground and park improvements, including the construction of outdoor bathing pools and field houses in all sections of the city; estimated cost, \$1,200,000.

Construction of schools in West Roxbury and South Boston; estimated cost, \$2,000,000.

Construction of buildings in Public Works Department; estimated cost, \$500,000.

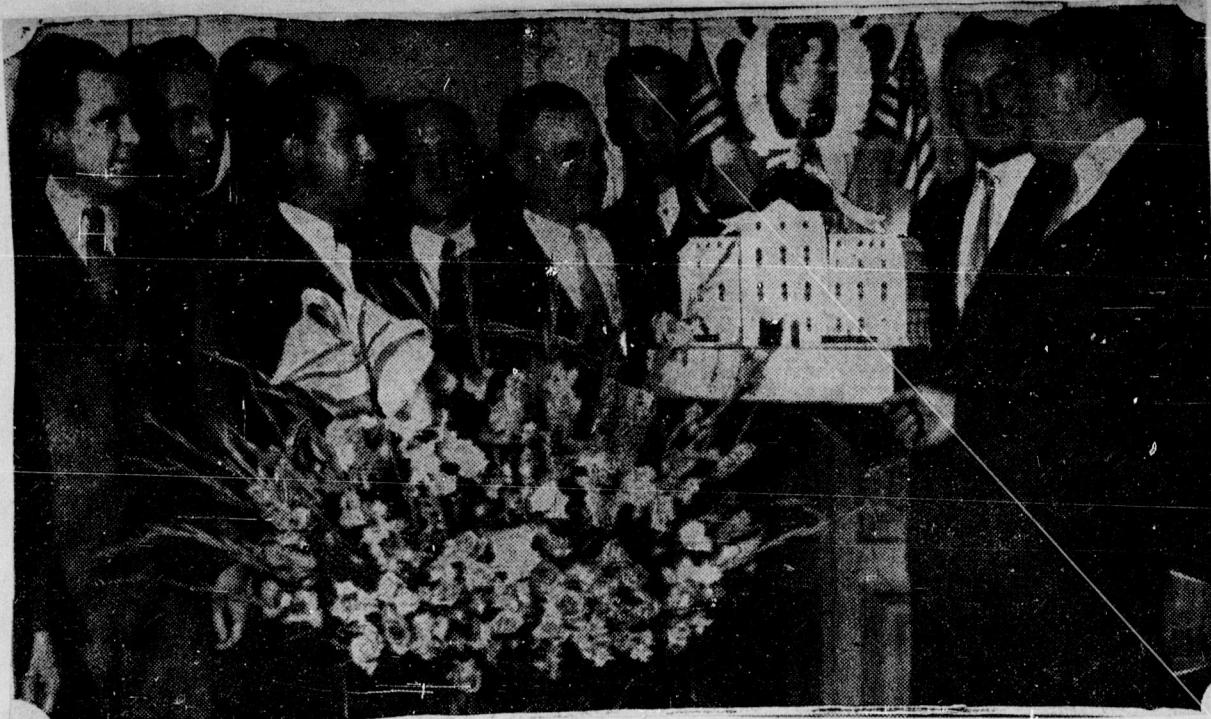
Consolidation of Stations 9 and 10 in Police Department and new station houses in place of Stations 11 and 17; estimated cost, \$600,000.

Consolidation of various fire stations; estimated cost, \$600,000.

New prison building at Deer Island; estimated cost, \$800,000.

RECORD

7/28/33



### Greeted

by his secretarial staff, after 6-week European tour, Mayor James M. Curley was presented with basket of flowers and miniature electric model of City Hall.

AMERICAN

## Boston City Expenses Top Rest of United States

With an annual expenditure of \$77.32 per capita in 1931, Boston surpassed Chicago, which was 11th in the list, with an expenditure of \$43.12. Even New York, second in the list, was considerably under Boston, having disbursed only \$65.48 per citizen during the year.

### CITIES LISTED

The complete list follows:

1—Boston .....	\$77.32
2—New York.....	65.48
3—Buffalo .....	65.27
4—Los Angeles .....	62.14
5—Detroit .....	59.74
6—Pittsburgh .....	59.16
7—Milwaukee .....	55.20
8—Cleveland .....	48.59
9—Philadelphia .....	47.68
10—San Francisco.....	47.00
11—Chicago .....	43.12
12—St. Louis .....	42.68

13—Baltimore .....

..... 40.66  
In urging that the table is an indication that Boston should reduce its expenditures, the Municipal Research Bureau cites the fact that Boston's tax rate during the last three years has been considerably in excess of the average rate of the other twelve cities.

In 1932, for example, says the bureau, Boston's adjusted rate was \$35.50 compared with \$24.61 for the other twelve. This information is based on a comparative table prepared by C. E. Rightor, former accountant of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research and former Detroit comptroller.

In 1931 Boston's tax rate was \$28.35, compared to \$22.95 for the 12 other cities; in 1930 it was \$27.72, compared with \$22.04.

AMERICAN 7/29/33

# DEMOCRATS IN WAR OVER NAMING OF CARNEY

Walsh, Coolidge Over-  
ridden by Young  
Jim Roosevelt

By JOHN T. LAMBERT

The Democrats are split wide open, four ways from Sunday.

Party patronage has cut them into rival, jealous, warring factions.

The appointment of Attorney Joseph P. Carney of Gardner to be internal revenue collector, over the heads of Senators David I. Walsh and Marcus A. Coolidge, intensifies the bitter struggles that mark the party leaders with the scars of disappointment.

A couple of United States Senators, in any state are supposed to know what it is all about. Walsh and Coolidge have been treated like a pair of lowly corporals.

Ex-Mayor George Sweeney of Gardner was appointed an assistant attorney-general of the United States, at \$9000 per year. Walsh and Coolidge heard about it when it was over. "Young Jim" Roosevelt put Sweeney across without their knowledge or consent.

Walsh next heard that a fellow he describes, privately, as "a political chiseler," was to be named in charge of the Reconstruction Finance Corp. Walsh was able to stop that one.

## FAHEY PLACES COTTER

Walsh supported ex-Congressman Michael F. Phelan of Lynn for Massachusetts director of the Home Loan Bank. "Young Jim" happened to be with Walsh in this fight. John H. Fahey, however, wanted the place for Charles F. Cotter of Lynn. He went to the White House, with the result that Cotter got the place

and Walsh and Roosevelt's eldest son were left out in the cold.

Fahey, himself, was designated to be a national director of the Home Loan Bank without the advance knowledge of the two Senators. Fahey is a former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce and Roosevelt thinks well of him. The President asked Senator Walsh what he thought of Fahey for a national appointment, and Walsh believed it was to be the Federal Power Commission. A few minutes before the appointment was made, the President told Walsh he had decided to put Fahey onto the Bank Board, and that's all there was to that.

## FRANKFURTER UNAIDED

Felix Frankfurter obtained the appointment of one of his proteges as special counsellor to the Secretary of Labor without the help of anyone of influence in the Bay State.

Louis McH. Howe, the President's secretary, wanted Mrs. Nellie Sullivan of Fall River to be immigration commissioner at Boston. He despairs of wielding even his influence effectively with the President, and now he will be content if Mrs. Sullivan is "taken care of" with a state job.

Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of the Democratic state committee announced publicly today that he is helping Miss Mary Ward, "Little Miss Dynamite," to be immigration commissioner, and doesn't care who knows it. Walsh is strong for ex-Senator John J. Kearney, the labor leader, who has been his friend through many campaigns. "Young Jim" is understood to be throwing his strength to Mrs. Julia O'Connor Parker, who was active in the telephone strike and who has been active in the labor ranks for President Roosevelt.

## ONE SCORE FOR WALSH

Senator Walsh did secure the appointment of his old friend, John J. Prendiville to the Advisory Board of Public Works, but it was young Roosevelt who put over Ex-Governor Alvan T. Fuller, who happens to be the severest critic of Governor Ely's Democratic Administration in Massachusetts.

"Young Jim" is backing Francis J. W. Ford, former President of the Boston City Council and classmate of his dad at Harvard, for the United States Attorneyship. Senator Coolidge is insisting upon ex-Mayor M. Fred O'Connell of Fitchburg. Senator Walsh is said to lean to LaRue Brown or District-Attorney Moriarty of Springfield for that post. In this, as in all the other matters of patronage, the Democratic leaders are as far apart as the poles. They are privately passing the blame to each other for every appointment that is made. Undercover, they have as much harmony among themselves as a squad of cats in an alley fight.

The appointment of Carney to the choicest plum in Bay State patronage illustrates the complete division among the chieftains.

Walsh wanted Leo H. Leahy, the old Harvard football star, for the collectorship. John F. Malley, who had the place under Wilson, was

backed for it again by numerous elements.

## MAYOR BACKED DOLAN

City Treasurer Edmund Dolan had the aggressive support of Mayor James M. Curley, who sacrificed much in behalf of President Roosevelt. All of them lost out to "Young Jim," who, with Sweeney, put over Carney as "Young Jim" had put over Sweeney before him. Carney is a lawyer, banker and business man, understood to be worth at least \$1,000,000. He supported Smith and contributed to Roosevelt's campaign with the same generosity he had supported Congressman Wilder, Republican, in the past. He had also "kicked in" for Senator Walsh in the past. Walsh knew Carney was under consideration for some post but he did not dream it was the fat collectorship until the newspapers told him Carney had been named at Washington.

Walsh had been contending for Col. Theodore H. Dillon of United Fruit Co. for director of public works, but when the smoke cleared away a fellow in Maine that Walsh had never heard of obtained the place.

HERALD

7/29/33

# ROURKE IGNORED HYDE PARK AREA

Tells Councilman Norton  
It Is Due to His Voting  
Against Street Loans

## CURLEY DISAVOWS DISCRIMINATION

A frank admission in writing by Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke, that Hyde Park had been deliberately ignored in the allocation of municipal funds available for street and sidewalk construction because Councilman Clement A. Norton had for two years consistently opposed bond issues for such purposes, last night, drew a declaration of war from the councilman. He construed the Rourke statement as reflecting the policy of Mayor Curley.

Mayor Curley, however, strongly indicated his disagreement with Rourke last night and said that the public works commissioner was "not a well man."

"Only yesterday," the mayor said, "Mr. Rourke expressed to me his desire to resign."

"Our job is to take care of the entire city," the mayor declared, disavowing any discrimination. "The attitude of any one individual makes no difference in this program. That is a well-known and established fact."

The mayor volunteered that perhaps at the time of the writing of the letter Commissioner Rourke was "in an irritated frame of mind."

Rourke, who is the most powerful influence among the municipal department heads, gave Norton the facts which he desired in an answer to a letter by the councilman seeking information about the amount of street and sidewalk work done in Hyde Park in 1932 and this year. He wrote:

In reply to your letter of July 5, addressed to Jim Gallagher, about work done in ward 18 for 1932 and up to date in 1933:

In 1932 we built for the street commissioners 10 new streets, including roadway, edge stones and artificial stone sidewalks at a total cost of \$76,636—all contract work.

The day labor forces, with the help of welfare men, reconstructed three streets at a total cost for the department men and materials of \$5185.

Up to date in the present year we have done two streets with the day labor forces and welfare men at a total cost of \$11,500 for materials and regular employees.

Three streets have been ordered constructed by the street commissioners and one of these new streets which was ordered on May 29 has surface drains advertised and bids will be opened July 25 which is preparatory to constructing the street.

Of course, you understand the reason for not doing any contract work in ward 18 during the past two years has been your opposition to loans either authorized by the state or by the city, and if it were dependent upon your efforts and votes, this department would have had no money to spend on contract work for the reconstruction of streets during the past two years. Hence, whatever neglect we have shown towards ward 18 in the reconstruction of old streets by contract is due to your opposition to obtaining money for such purpose.

### NORTON STATEMENT

In making public the letter Councilman Norton made this statement:

Attached herewith is an official letter from a high city of Boston official in which he states that as a result of my opposition, my ward has received no contract street work.

My ward comprises one-sixth of the total area of the city. We have over 333 unaccepted streets, which means the streets are in bad condition, invariably. People living on these streets want them fixed. Streets are an important political issue in suburban wards—perhaps the most important.

It will be interesting to note in the coming council contest in ward 18 whether a councilman can dare to differ with a powerful mayor. My answer will be that as long as there is waste, favoritism and extravagance in building city streets, I will oppose the spending of the people's money on them.

Commissioner Rourke has been refreshingly frank in placing his thoughts in writing.

Indicating that he intended to make an issue of the treatment which has been given Hyde Park, Norton said he proposed to wage a relentless war against extravagance in the public works department and to continue his attacks on favored contractors who are known as the "select recipients" of city contracts. He said:

I don't believe, now that the truth is out—I have known it for two years, but Mr. Rourke has told the people about it—that I will encounter very much difficulty in exposing a cheap policy which gives to wards represented by certain councilmen a monopoly of the money taken from the taxpayers of the entire city for streets and sidewalks. The taxpayers of Hyde Park provide Commissioner Rourke with the money that he has to spend even though I, in my judgment as their representative, am convinced that no money should be made available until it is demonstrated that it will be spent wisely and economically, and I might add, honestly, by giving all contractors a chance to engage in honest, competitive bidding.

# AMERICAN TRUCE IN DOWD CURLEY FEUD

The Mayor Curley-Councilman Dowd feud, which dates back three years and has been quite bitter at times, appears about to be ended peacefully.

And the National Recovery Act which has been credited with doing wonders in other respects, is responsible for this surprising result.

Councillor John F. Dowd of Roxbury, who has been barred from the mayor's office for three years, has been invited by letter from the mayor himself to attend a conference Monday. Dowd has accepted.

All councillors have been invited and the mayor will outline his plans for expenditure of more than \$23,000,000 under the N. I. R. A.

It was learned that a telephone call from one of the mayor's secretaries "followed up" the letter to Dowd. Why this was necessary could not be learned.

Chase

## TOMASELLO AWARDED COMMONWEALTH-AV JOB

A. G. Tomasello & Sons, with a bid of \$33,832, was awarded today by Mayor Curley the contract to pave the central drive of Commonwealth Av between Harvard Av and Allston St. A. R. Doyle Company was \$305 under the Tomasello bid, but the contract was given to Tomasello, it being said by the Mayor that the contractor could do the job in shorter time and with less inconvenience to traffic. There were 11 bids, the highest \$40,250.

The Mayor today also awarded a contract for repairing the bridge over the Boston & Albany R. R. tracks at Audubon Circle. A Solamando was low bidder at \$5977. There were 15 bidders.

Ghobie 7/29/33

# SHOCK GREATEST TO CURLEY FACTION

## Internal Revenue Collector Post to Gardner Banker

The astonishment of leaders of the Boston Democracy at the "over-head" appointment of banker Joseph P. Carney of Gardner to the prize post of Internal Revenue Collector at Boston increased rather than abated, as the news "sunk in" during the day.

Some of the lesser leaders realized that they are "out in the cold," prospectively, so far as friendly contact with this most important local Federal office is concerned. The consternation seemed deepest among some of the Curley faction, as much as these had made up their minds that City Collector Edmund A. Dolan, considered well equipped for the job, was slated to get it.

Friends of Leo H. Leary, who felt that his qualifications for the post, and his arduous campaign services last Fall, had given him an inside position for consideration, were as profoundly surprised.

Members of the Boston Democratic factions, which are not so enthusiastic in admiration for Senator David I. Walsh, saw Mr Carney's appointment as an Administration gift to him and to Senator Marcus

A. Coolidge, his colleague. But some who pretend to take a longer view in such matters were certain that Messrs Walsh and Coolidge must have privately given Postmaster Farley their word that Mr Carney would be entirely acceptable to both, since it is openly known that he is a friend of both these leaders. And, after all, Senators Walsh and Coolidge are, so far as the Administration is concerned, the Democratic leaders in this State to be reckoned with, others felt.

### Lawyer and Banker

A lawyer, an industrialist, a bank president, and considered a man of wealth, Carney is a prominent figure in business in the western part of the State, but his name is hardly known to the politicians.

The name of John F. Malley, collector during the Wilson Administration, was one of the first mentioned for the post. Subsequently it became known that Mayor Curley was working for City Treas Edmund L. Dolan.

## Post NO CONTRACTS IN HYDE PARK

### Norton Quotes Rourke to Show Reason

City Councillor Clement A. Norton of Hyde Park, last night gave out a letter, dated July 14, from Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke, in which the latter declared that the reason the city is doing no contract work in Norton's district, is Norton's continued opposition in the Council to all loans authorized by the State or city.

Norton scored the public works commissioner for his attitude, declaring that his ward comprises a sixth of the city in area, with 333 unaccepted streets, indicating the bad condition they are in. He said that Rourke was "refreshingly frank," and announced that the coming election contest for councilman from Hyde Park will demonstrate whether a councilman "can dare to differ with a powerful Mayor."

## CURLEY ANSWERS RESEARCH BUREAU

### Points to Disregard of Fair Representation

Stating that the Municipal Research Bureau had shown an "utter disregard for an equitable presentation of Boston's financial position among the large cities of this country," Mayor Curley yesterday replied to a bulletin issued by the bureau.

The bulletin stated that Boston, ninth in a list of 13 cities of more than 500,000 population, has the highest per capita expenditure.

The bulletin also pointed out that under the National Industrial Recovery act Boston has a maximum expenditure allowance of \$28,000,000 and any expenditure, according to the Research Bureau, will impose an "insupportable debt burden."

Mayor Curley, in his reply, brought home the fact that although Boston is nominally a city of 800,000, the municipal services of the city are extended to upwards of 2,000,000, inasmuch as commuters from the metropolitan district enter and leave Boston every day and receive the benefit of services, the cost of which is borne by the actual dwellers in the city.

"If the city merely was required to render service to its own inhabitants," declared the Mayor, "there is no question but that a marked reduction in departmental expenditures could be secured."

The Mayor said Boston was one of the few large cities in the country which makes a direct tax levy for the building of schools. Since 1916, according to the Mayor, \$40,000,000 has been included in the tax levy for this purpose.

Boston also, said the Mayor, is one of the few cities which pays for welfare relief out of direct taxation.

"It is estimated that at the end of the current year, Boston will have expended for Public Welfare relief in five years in excess of \$35,000,000," the Mayor declared.

The Mayor questioned the impartiality of the Research Bureau's statistics, remarking that they were based on the relative adjusted tax levels of various cities.

"In Boston," said the Mayor, "where assessed values are supposed to equal 100 percent of the true value, the actual tax rate and the adjusted tax rate in 1932 were the same, \$35.50."

"In Chicago, by comparison, the assessed values are reported to be only 77 percent of the true values, and in San Francisco, 45 percent. The use of adjusted tax level figures in the bulletin is an attempt by the bureau to further mislead the citizens concerning the financial structure of the city."

HERALD 7/29/33

# ROURKE MAY QUIT POST AS STREET HEAD

## Hyde Park Controversy and Health Seen as Reasons

The possibility of a change in the leadership of the important city public works department was being discussed in the City Hall today following announcement from Mayor Curley that Commr. Joseph A. Rourke had expressed a desire to resign.

### HYDE PARK AND NORTON

The announcement came from the mayor in commenting on a letter from Rourke to Councilman Clement A. Norton. Rourke had admitted to Norton that Hyde Park had been deliberately ignored in allocation of municipal funds available for street and sidewalk construction because Norton had, for two years, consistently opposed bond issues for such purposes.

Norton immediately made an issue of Rourke's attitude and construed it as reflecting the policy of Mayor Curley. The Mayor, however, indicated his disagreement with the public works commissioner and commented that Rourke "is not a well man," and perhaps at the time of writing the letter Rourke "was in an irritated frame of mind."

"Only Thursday," the mayor said. "Mr Rourke expressed to me his desire to resign. Our job is to take care of the entire city. The attitude of any one individual makes no difference in this program. That is a well known and established fact."

The gossip buzzed in City Hall today as to whether the mayor might take Rourke at his word and appoint a new head to the department.

Norton, who is expected to be a candidate for re-election this year, is frequently at odds with the mayor.

Rourke, who is the most powerful influence among the municipal department heads, gave Norton the facts which he desired in an answer to a letter by the councilman seeking information about the amount of street and sidewalk work done in Hyde Park in 1932 and this year. He wrote:

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# MAYOR ATTACKS RESEARCH BUREAU

## Charges Statement as to Tax Rate Misleads

Mayor Curley yesterday assailed the municipal research bureau for questionable judgment in stressing, without justification, the claim that the Boston tax rate of last year was the highest of 13 American cities with a population of more than 500,000.

Admitting that the statement revealed by federal statistics was correct, Mayor Curley sharply criticised the bureau for failure to set forth that no fair comparison of tax rates, from the standpoint of economy in municipal expenditures, could be made unless the particular public services provided by each city were given consideration.

He said that instead of financing welfare costs by bond issues or community chests, Boston paid such expenses out of taxes and other cities did not.

He continued that the research bureau had emphasized the results of a federal analysis, but had refrained from revealing the explanatory statement of an analyst, C. E. Rightor of Detroit, who drew the correct picture of any attempted comparison.

Rightor said: "A study of the comparative tax rates on real and personal property does not afford an ultimate test as to the effectiveness or economy of any city," because "consideration must be given to modifying factors peculiar to the individual cities under comparison."

Attacking the judgment of the research bureau in issuing such a "welcome home" statement, the mayor said: "I regret that in preparing the bulletin the bureau has shown an utter disregard for a just and equitable presentation of Boston's financial position among the large cities of this country. Since the bureau includes Boston in its official name, it would appear questionable judgment on the part of its officials to erroneously and illogically present conclusions concerning the city of the type incorporated in the bulletin released today."

TRANSCRIPT 7/29/33

RECORD

## Boston's High Cost of Government

Figures of the United States Census Bureau show that per capita expenditures for municipal government in Boston were larger in 1931 than in any other of a group of thirteen cities. The expenditures are those for operation and maintenance costs of general city departments. Expenditures for public service enterprises, interest and capital outlays are not included. The Boston Municipal Research Bureau in a bulletin in which the figures are quoted makes the statement that had all expenditures been included Boston would still have been in first place among the cities.

Per capita expenditures for the purposes named are given as \$77.32 in Boston, \$65.48 in New York, and then in descending scale until Baltimore is reached at the bottom of the list with expenditures of \$40.66. Certain questions present themselves as the list is examined. Boston is the center of a greater city. Were there a Greater Boston created by law, Boston as it now exists might be one of a number of boroughs. How do expenditures per capita in Boston compare with expenditures per capita in Manhattan, a borough of the Greater New York? What is the explanation of the fact that per capita expenditures in Boston are nearly twice those in Baltimore? There is the further striking contrast in the Chicago expenditures of \$43 and the Boston expenditures of \$77. These differences would seem to be too great to be accounted for by extravagance in Boston. They apparently strike deeper than that.

Perhaps the reasons are much as Mayor Curley has given them in his reply to the bureau's statement. The fact that this city provides for new school buildings by direct taxation instead of loans, that it has met the unemployment relief situation in the same way and is, as we have already pointed out, called upon to render a certain service to hundreds of thousands of commuters, must be a contributing factor in the high tax rate. Then, again, speaking in general terms, the cost of living in Boston has always been comparatively high. When we had the money, most of us believed it was worth it. Which is not, of course, to say that we should not take every step to have it lowered or that we condone municipal extravagance.

The present lesson is plain. Every possible means for saving should be employed. In particular, an effective damper should be put on public works not vitally essential to the city's welfare. This is no time for the realization of pleasant but unsubstantial dreams.

## OUTSIDER GETS HUB PLUM

President Roosevelt tossed a bombshell into Massachusetts Democratic circles yesterday by appointing a man almost unknown to the political rank and file, Joseph P. Carney of Gardner, lawyer, furniture dealer and banker, to be collector of internal revenue here. He succeeds Thomas P. White of Newton, resigned.

When news of the appointment reached Boston, it had leading Democrats bewildered and stunned. It was some time before they could discover just who Carney was, and how he fitted in the political scheme to pick off one of the choicest plums in the Bay State.

This is the position which it had been believed would go to Edmund P. Dolan, city treasurer of Boston and close friend of Mayor Curley.

In the midst of the confusion in the Democratic camp following the bare announcement of Carney's ap-



**Mayor Curley**

### Problems of the Lucky . . .

Frank Foster, who conducts the theatrical ticket-agency in Macy's drugstore at Stuart and Tremont sts., spends his summers traveling whether he lists . . .

Currently he's in Norway, whence he writes, complaining, that he can't get any sleep because it's daytime all the time! . . . Let us pause a moment and weep for poor Frank Foster!

. . . They tell that Joe E. **Mayor Curley** Brown of the mammoth-cave mouth doesn't precisely relish it when there's somebody around who can top his gags . . . And they tell, furthermore, that when that "42nd St. Special" came here, Joe found **Mayor Curley** could keep right up with him, gag for gag, till Joe's wit nearly went into a tailspin . . . Slight financial difficulty holding up the Joe Cook's show, hush?

pointment, it developed that only James Roosevelt, son of the President, had any knowledge locally as to who was to be appointed to the important revenue post.

Carney, over the telephone from his home in Gardner, admitted that three weeks ago President Roosevelt had asked him if he would accept the post, and that he had expressed his willingness to serve.

"I have known the President for a long-time," he said.

Asked if he was introduced by Sen. David L. Walsh or others high in the councils of the party in this state Carney answered:

"No, I have been a friend and supporter of Franklin D. Roosevelt for years. I met him on his last trip through this section of the state. In the campaign I did all in my power to assist in his nomination and election."

Mr. Carney laughed heartily when told that many Boston leaders of the Democratic party were puzzled as to his identity.

"Well, all of them ought to know me. As an attorney I have had business relations with 'Joe' Maynard and many others of the Boston Democracy. Sen. Walsh practiced law with me for many years out in this section of the state."

He was born in Gardner 57 years ago, was graduated from Dartmouth in 1898 and from Boston University Law School in 1902. He retired from the practice of law in 1922 to become treasurer and general manager of the Florence Stove Co., of Gardner. He is now president of the Gardner Trust Co., president of the Whitney Furniture Manufacturing Co., and of the Hale Furniture Co., of Arlington, Vt.

He is the father of three daughters and one son. One of the daughters, Elizabeth, 22, is a graduate of Smith College.

President Roosevelt also named John A. Dooley of Portland, chairman of the Democratic state committee in Maine, to be collector of customs at Portland.

Globe 7/29/33

## Appointee Is Close Friend of Sweeney

Democratic leaders in Massachusetts received a shock late yesterday afternoon when President Roosevelt's appointment of Joseph P. Carney of Gardner to succeed Thomas W. White as collector of internal revenue at Boston was announced at Washington.

To say that Mr Carney's appointment was a distinct surprise to those who have interested themselves in the distribution of Federal offices in this State is putting it mildly.

A lawyer, an industrialist, a bank president, and considered a man of wealth, Carney is a prominent figure in business in the western part of the State, but his name is hardly known to the politicians.

### Ends Patronage War

The naming of Mr Carney to fill one of the most important Federal offices in the section ends a patronage struggle which has been in progress since the Roosevelt Administration came into power.

Apparently, he was not the selection of Senator David I. Walsh or Senator Marcus A. Coolidge, though both know and are friendly with him, or of any of the more conspicuous leaders of the State Democracy. The appointment has all the earmarks of another personal choice by the President.

Mr Carney's part in the political drama seems to have been restricted to assisting the career in home town contests of his close friend and associate, ex-Mayor George C. Sweeney of Gardner whom the Administration recently made an Assistant Attorney General at Washington.

When Mr Sweeney entered local politics as a candidate for City Councilor, Mr Carney, then an influential business man, supported him. Subsequently, the latter became Carney's most active supporter in Sweeney's successful campaign for Mayor.

The two men have been close friends, have law offices in the same building, and Sweeney has represented the new collector in law cases involving the latter's private affairs.

### Active for Roosevelt

From the first, former Mayor Sweeney was one of the most active Roosevelt leaders in the western part of the State, and it is assumed that Mr Carney was a liberal contributor to the Roosevelt campaign chest.

Since Mr Sweeney went to Washington, he has doubtless advised the President of Mr Carney's willingness to accept the office if it were proffered him.

So far as is known, political leaders have been lining up behind other

candidates for the collectorship. The name of John F. Malley, collector during the Wilson Administration, was one of the first mentioned for the post. Subsequently it became known that Mayor Curley was working for City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan.

It had been assumed that Senator Walsh was favorable to the claims of Leo H. Leary, Boston lawyer and former Harvard football player and coach. Leary's friends have believed all along that he had the inside track.

Carney's appointment is the second selection for an important office in this State in the long-deferred distribution of patronage. The other major office filled here has been the collectorship of the port of Boston, which went to State Democratic Chairman Joseph A. Maynard.

Two more excellent plums remain to be passed out, the office of Federal District Attorney and that of Commissioner of Immigration.

Though Mrs Anna C. M. Tillinghast resigned early last month upon suggestion from Washington, her successor has not as yet been appointed. Senator Walsh's choice for this position is understood to be John J. Kearney, Boston labor leader.

### Dartmouth Graduate

After attending the Gardner High School, Joseph P. Carney, who is 57 years old, attended Holy Cross College for a year, but transferred to Dartmouth, where he was graduated in 1898. He was graduated from Boston University Law School four years later, and started the practice of law in the office of John Cronin of Boston.

Mr Carney only remained in Boston a year, returning to Gardner and opening a law office.

Subsequently he became identified with industry. He became treasurer of the Wilder Industries, Inc. In 1909, he sold his interest in the corporation for a large amount of money, it was understood.

At the present time Mr Carney is president of the Gardner Trust Company. He is also identified with the chairmaking industry, the Hale Manufacturing Company of Arlington, Vt, and the W. S. Whitney Company of South Ashburnham.

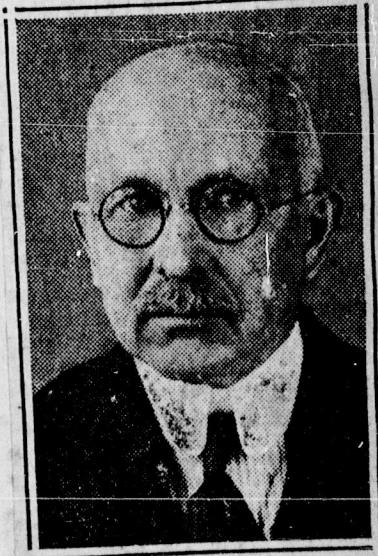
He has been one of the active members of the Oak Hill Country Club, one of Senator Coolidge's hobbies. Senator Walsh is also a member. The three men have known one another socially and in a business way for many years.

## ROURKE TAKES MONTH'S LEAVE

Commissioner of Public Works to Retire

Commissioner of Public Works Joseph A. Rourke today was granted a leave of absence with pay for one month, and it is said that he will be retired from the city service Sept. 1.

It would appear that this is a definite retirement for Rourke, but a year ago last winter it was said his



JOSEPH A. ROURKE

Commissioner of Public Works

health was broken and he was through. However, he came back after a spell of sunshine at Miami Beach. His friends this time expect that he will do for him this summer what Miami Beach did on the other occasion.

Mayor Curley today said that he advised Rourke to take an extended vacation because the veteran had said his health was not all he desired. However, Mr Rourke told the Mayor that he had a month's leave coming, would take it and would not return to the city service.

Christopher J. Carven, now in charge of the water division of the city, will as on other occasions when Mr Rourke was on vacation, take over the duties of Commissioner of Public Works.

Commenting on Rourke's retirement, Mayor Curley said that he was a great asset to the city, making contractors live up to their contracts and saving the city \$200,000 annually.

TRANSCRIPT 7/29/33

## Rourke Quits Big City Job— Carven Slated

### Public Works Head Resigns After Hyde Park Row with Norton

Joseph A. Rourke, one of the veterans of the municipal service, and commissioner of public works during the Curley administrations, will quit next Tuesday, according to his present plans, and leave the city on a vacation of a month. At the end of that period if he persists in his determination to resign, because of recurring heart trouble, he will be succeeded by Christopher J. Carven, division engineer in charge of the water division.

Rourke's action at this time was largely influenced by the final act in his long-time controversy with Councilor Clement E. Norton of Hyde Park over bond issues for streets, Rourke sharply admitting to the councilor by letter that Hyde Park had been ignored in the allocation of municipal funds for street and sidewalk construction because of Norton's persistent opposition to appropriations. When Rourke's letter to the councilor was called to the attention of the mayor he declared that the public works commissioner was not a well man and had expressed to him his desire to resign.

Today, Mr. Rourke reiterated that request and the mayor asked him to take a vacation and think it over. Mr. Rourke said the city owed him a month's vacation and he would take it. He was emphatic in stating that he did not intend to resume his work, which had taxed his resources almost to the limit in the last few years. For a long time he has been suffering from diabetes and only by most rigid following of medical advice had he been able to direct his department. Lately, his heart has troubled him.

No city official is better known to the public than Mr. Rourke. He entered the city service in August, 1895, and after working in various capacities was made head of the high pressure fire service whose pipes now gird the business district. He is a graduate of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. From 1901 to 1918 he was employed in the street and public works departments. During the war he was commissioned captain in the construction division of the Army. He is a member of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers. Mr. Rourke served as commissioner of public works during the second Curley administration, left the city service for four years and finally succeeded James H. Sullivan in February, 1930, when Curley entered upon his third term.

Concerning his service, Mayor Curley often remarked that "Rourke is a great municipal asset but a tremendous political liability." He meant by this statement that the commissioner was so firm, so conscientious and so vigorous in his direction of the department that he made many enemies, though at the same time exerting himself for the welfare of the city as a whole.

Christopher J. Carven, who will succeed Mr. Rourke, is another veteran of the department, who entered the service in June, 1884, and must retire by reason of age in December. Often he has served as acting commissioner of public works in the absence of Mr. Rourke.

AMERICAN 7/29/33

## Mayor and Public Works New Subway Should Be Built NOW

Mayor Curley deserves public commendation for the active and intelligent manner in which he has taken charge of the public works program in accordance with the national plan urged by the President. The Mayor has devised a program of public works for the city of Boston that includes the new Huntington Avenue subway from Copley Square to Longwood Avenue.

This subway will have to be constructed at some time to afford actual rapid transit to the people on the southwest side of Boston and to eliminate the traffic congestion on the surface of Huntington Avenue.

The circumstances all suggest that the construction should be done NOW.

The national government will pay thirty per cent of such projects and will aid in financing the balance of seventy per cent. Contracts could be effected before the prices of building materials go kiting. Productive and compensatory labor would be afforded for probably 2000 men who have been obliged to resort to city welfare for their subsistence.

The owners of the Boston Elevated have hesitated to ratify this subway development in the past because the rental for the subway must come out of current revenue. But the conditions are now more favorable. Car-riding has increased and will continue to increase as work becomes more plentiful and prosperity more general. The government contribution will relieve the extent of the subway rentals. Moreover, the future of the Elevated must depend more largely upon its rapid-transit lines and the Elevated must build for the future when the opportunity is most advantageous, as now.

Another fact not to be lost sight of is that the enhanced value of the property along Huntington Avenue will make it more profitable to its owners and to the City Treasury in new taxable income.

In the light of all these favorable conditions, the construction of the new Huntington Avenue subway should be begun without intolerable delay. Let the dirt fly.

## ROURKE IS ON RETIREMENT LIST

"Joe Rourke has been a great asset to the city, saving the taxpayers an average of over \$200,000 a year, and he never played a favorite, but he was a political liability to me because of his frankness."

Christopher J. Carven, now deputy commissioner, will succeed Rourke. Carven will be 70 in December and will have to go on the retirement list then.

Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke, storm center of a dispute over Hyde Park streets, a recent letter that the reason is retiring immediately from the Hyde Park streets were not being city's service, Mayor Curley announced today.

Rourke, a veteran of many years in the city's employ, will take a four weeks' leave of absence and then go on the retired list, Sept. 1.

The reason is ill health, according to Mayor Curley, who remarked:

Hyde Park streets were not being paved was because Norton so consistently opposed all borrowings for street construction.

# Patronage Row

## Snubbing Stirs Democratic Ire

### James Roosevelt's Influence Shown in Carney Appointment, Enrages Leaders

By William F. Furbush

The expected parade of darkhorse Democratic appointees to local Federal jobs appears to be under way in earnest, with State party leaders and theoretical patronage consultants becoming more and more ugly as they wriggle in the tangle-foot coat of snubbing being applied by the Washington Administration. A first class intraparty row is on, and are the faces of the Republicans red in appreciation, as they see their predictions of warfare in the enemy ranks begin to come true.

The surprise appointment by President Roosevelt of Joseph P. Carney of Gardner, presumably under the aegis of James Roosevelt, son of the President, to be the new collector of internal revenue at Boston to succeed Collector Thomas W. White, is the latest blow to party leaders. Among them is Mayor James M. Curley, "lone wolf" Bay State leader in the "For-Roosevelt-Before-the-Convention" qualification for patronage consideration established by Postmaster General James A. Farley, reputed chief mogul in the distribution of campaign rewards.

There are party commentators in fact who fear that even Farley may become involved in the meshes of dissension, unless future selections are based on fairly close co-operation with organization workers upon whom, as chairman of the national committee, Farley must look for assistance when another election rolls around.

Three other local major positions remain to be filled and upon the selection of appointees for these posts may hinge the question whether the State organization as at present established will be disintegrated or will combine into a disgruntled group nursing its grievances until the next national election time comes on.

The remaining choice plums to be plucked are the positions of United States Attorney, United States Marshal and Immigration Commissioner. If James Roosevelt, as he is declared to have done in the selection of Carney and in the selection of former Mayor George C. Sweeney, also of Gardner, for the position of Assistant Attorney General at Washington, prevails with his choices for the remaining plums, the breach with the old leaders will be substantially complete.

It is already being discussed openly that the younger Roosevelt has a definite choice for the marshalship in the person of Representative J. Henry Goguen of Leominster. Should Goguen's name come through for the appointment, it will be considered as further proof of the declaration that young Roosevelt is in the saddle as the boss over patronage for the Bay State, displacing not only Governor Joseph B. Ely, as national

committeeman; Chairman Joseph A. Maynard of the State committee, but, most important and significant of all, Senator David I. Walsh, whose supporters already are up in arms because, as they understand, he was not consulted in the President's recent appointment of former Governor Alvan T. Fuller, as a State adviser in the public works program under the recovery act.

Selection of Carney, unknown politically in this section, came with obvious surprise to both Senators Walsh and his colleague, Senator Marcus A. Coolidge, although both indicate that thirty will impose no opposition to his confirmation when the Senate meets next January.

#### Curley Also Surprised

The appointment also came with equal surprise to Mayor Curley, who had strenuously advanced his friend, City Treasurer Edmund L. Dolan, for the position. In fact, it was declared that when the mayor was last in Washington he appeared to be as much interested in Dolan being made revenue collector here as he was in his own reward for campaign services.

As had been set forth in these columns there was an impasse over the appointment, Mayor Curley standing out for Dolan, Senator Walsh pressing for his own 'choice, believed to have been former Collector Malley, and administration friends desiring Leo Leahy. During the row over the selection it was predicted here that a dark horse from the western part of the State would be the solution, and Carney's selection, with the backing of young Roosevelt, clears the muddle but not without heartaches and ill feeling.

The new collector, who is a lawyer by profession, a native and lifelong resident of Gardner and president of the Gardner Trust Co., gave weight to the conclusion that James Roosevelt was instrumental in his selection for the revenue post when he stated that the office came to him through a personal request from the President that he accept it. He is a close friend of former Mayor Sweeney and was a strong supporter of the latter when he ran for mayor.

Selection of Sweeney for the post of assistant attorney general is understood to have come about after forceful intercession by James Roosevelt, which prevailed only following considerable consideration of the appointment by Attorney General Cummings. In other words, the Sweeney appointment, like that of Carney, is substantially a personal selection by the President in apparent compliance with the wishes of his oldest son, in whose judgment, according to Washington observers, he places much confidence.

#### See Makings of New Group

In the appointment of Carney, following the presidential selection of former Governor Fuller, without consulting the State's party leaders, political observers see not only a blow or affront to both Senator Walsh and Governor Ely, as national committeeman, but the establishing of a new deal in the matter of patronage, with James Roosevelt at the head in the making of a clear-cut Roosevelt organization in Massachusetts, independent of the present leaders of the State organization.

Dumping by the Roosevelt forces of the leaders who almost to a man, excepting Mayor Curley, supported former Governor Alfred E. Smith for the nomination at Chicago a year ago last June, manifestly, whether intended or not, takes on the hue of retaliation for the 3 to 1 defeat the Rooseveltian candidates for delegates to the convention suffered at the hands of Senator Walsh, Governor Ely, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald

et al in the bitter presidential race of April, 1932.

The State organization, to be sure, got aboard the band wagon in earnest after Roosevelt's nomination. All of the Smith leaders, including Smith himself, indulged in surface campaign lovefeasts. They went the full distance in platform and other election activities for the party standard bearers, albeit their tongues may have been in their cheeks as they gestured for Roosevelt. The original Roosevelt men, however, have never forgotten the sting of defeat in the April primaries and now are giving plain indication that their day in court has arrived and that they intend to be the principals, not mere witnesses.

It is conceivable that the national organization, acting through the young Roosevelt here, may set about establishing its own independent group, using major Federal positions as the nuclei around which to build up a strong organization, however, is problematical. Party leaders are not created necessarily by the simple expedient of placing men in key positions in the Federal service. For example, it would take something more than the holding of a Federal job to develop the strength of leadership of Senator Walsh, or Governor Ely, or Mayor Curley, not to mention the Democratic congressmen who also, are being, or have been ignored, in the matter of patronage consultations.

Obviously, it would appear that young Roosevelt, in the event that he is essaying such a difficult job, has a hard row to hoe in setting up an organization replacing the existing one which has repeatedly proved its strength. There is the further consideration that the State democracy, originally hostile to the Roosevelt cause in its repeatedly demonstrated loyalty to Al Smith, may not prove easily susceptible to any blandishments from new blood overtures unfriendly to Smith or his loyal Massachusetts supporters.

#### Farley May Take a Hand

Astute politician that he is, Postmaster General Farley is aware of the dynamite in the row here. He may take a hand in endeavor to carry out one of his patronage premises, viz., that in a State where the party organization originally was for Smith, or Ritchie or Baker but later boarded the Roosevelt bandwagon, the State organization is slated for the bulk of the plums.

Further appointments of men under the direct suggestion of James Roosevelt, without anything further than academic consultation with Senator Walsh or other party leaders, would obviously be contrary to Farley's written stand above stated, and that could well extend the friction already existing here into official family of the President himself.

All of which has no bearing on the President's big battle on many fronts to restore the country's prosperity. All Republicans and Democrats alike, are being straight Americans, cheering the President's leadership in his recovery program, but the row over patronage is another story. It is political summer entertainment, except those hungrily desirous of jobs which are gradually being whittled away from their hope sticks.

# Strong Roosevelt Machine Now Being Built for 1934 and 1936 Campaigns

## Patronage Policy Aims to Reward Original Supporters and withhold Recognition from Opponents of Program

By Oliver McKee, Jr.

Special to the Transcript:

Washington, July 29—Two principles seem to be firmly established by Postmaster General Farley in the distribution of the 150,000 jobs in the Federal service that make up the legitimate spoils for the victor. One is to reward the men and women in the party who were for Franklin D. Roosevelt before the Chicago convention, and the second, is to withhold recognition to those Democrats in Congress, so far as the Federal patronage dispensers can withhold recognition, who since the fourth of March have been fighting the Administration in the legislative battles on Capitol Hill. These principles have a common aim; namely the building of a strong Roosevelt machine, as strong as it is possible to make it, in preparation for the national campaigns of 1934 and 1936.

To Eastern Democrats, including many in Massachusetts, the carrying out of these principles is of more than ephemeral importance, for they mean quite plainly that the conservative pillars of the party in the East are to have only minor places at the feast, if indeed they will get standing room tickets. It is interesting to note that practically no Democrat of the type of Alfred E. Smith, John W. Davis, Newton D. Baker, or Albert C. Ritchie has been given a prominent place in the councils of the party in Washington. It is to other elements in the party than the conservative Eastern wing that Mr. Roosevelt has turned almost exclusively in building the national administration. With much of the program of the New Deal the conservative wing of the party is out of sympathy, though their lack of sympathy has not been noisily expressed. Here and there certain members of the conservative group, as Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, and Alfred E. Smith, through the editorial columns of the *Outlook*, have projected a few question marks into the picture but in the main the opposition in the Democratic party has been a silent one.

Political analysts hereabouts have given the Farley patronage program a good deal of thought. It is now clear enough that the Roosevelt leaders intend to make a special effort to hold most of the ground they won in 1932 in the twenty odd States West of the Alleghanies that are normally Republican. It is equally patent that the Roosevelt leaders intend, if possible, to keep in the Democratic party most of the former Western Republicans that of old belonged to the so-called radi-

cal wing of the G. O. P., and as such were a perpetual thorn in the side of the Republican conservatives. Evidences of this determination may be noted in the acceptance by the Roosevelt Administration of many of the principles for which the Republican progressives once fought, notably the control of the so-called money power, a check on corporations and a redistribution of wealth. The New Deal in its orientation is distinctly "liberal," and this leads many to feel that a realignment of parties is under way which will in the near future bring all the liberals and radicals into the Democratic party, and put the conservatives under the Republican banner.

Students of political science have long argued that this division between the two major parties was the logical one, the same line of division on principles that have separated the Liberals and Conservatives in England, and more recently the Labor and Conservative parties. With us, there have been liberals and conservatives in both parties. The Republicans have had their La Follettes and Norrises, and the Democrats their Wheelers, Longs, and a few decades ago William Jennings Bryan. It is perhaps too early to say whether this realignment will actually eventuate, but certainly current developments are in this direction. Mr. Roosevelt early in the campaign made gestures of friendship and good will to the Western radical Republicans, and in making up his Cabinet, chose Harold L. Ickes, once a progressive Republican, for a post that is proving to be among the most important in Washington, now that public works have been placed under Mr. Ickes's direction. Another erstwhile Republican heads the Agriculture Department in the person of Secretary Wallace, who is before the public eye as no Secretary of Agriculture in our day has been.

In many of the States west of the Alleghanies, the Democrats until recently have had only a skeleton organization. The radical and other Republicans were in complete command of the situation. Now the radical Republicans have moved over, almost in a body, to the Roosevelt camp, with the result that a new Democratic organization has been created in many of the States. There are no precedents and traditions to fetter the movements of these new Democratic groups; their loyalty is to Roosevelt and the New Deal. And under these conditions, as a matter of practical politics, it is easy to understand why Farley intends to deal all the best cards to the Roosevelt men, and the party workers who can be counted upon to play ball with the Washington Administration during the months ahead, when the groundwork will be laid for the 1934 campaigns. The Roosevelt leaders can hardly afford to risk any great diminution in their congressional strength, during the recovery period and hence their determination to build their political fences only from tried and tested timber.

The patronage job is one that is exactly fitted to Mr. Farley's cloth. A hundred per cent loyal to Mr. Roosevelt, devoted to his political fortunes, Mr. Farley has a driving energy and a political acumen which have enabled him to go over the situation and Democratic personnel in practically every State, all with the view of constructing the strongest kind of Roosevelt machine that he can. This is going to be tough on some

Democrats who do not belong to the charmed circle of the original Roosevelt men, but Farley seems to believe that no great harm can be done by extending the cold shoulder to this group in matters of patronage. It is for the future to determine what effect the present patronage and other policies in Washington will have on the fortunes of the Democratic party in the Eastern States.

J. RAVELIER

## ROOSEVELT'S SON NAMED CARNEY

### Internal Revenue Collector Not Recommended by Walsh

Democrats were discussing today the appointment by President Roosevelt of Joseph P. Carney of Gardner as collector of internal revenue.

Carney, a banker, lawyer and business man, is, politically speaking, unknown. In the lines of endeavor he has pursued through his life he is prominent. He will take the place of Thomas White, who resigned last March.

Because Carney is unknown in the field of politics it was wondered by Democrats throughout the state who landed the appointment. Mayor Curley said he didn't know Carney. Senator Walsh said he did not recommend him.

The appointment therefore is credited to James Roosevelt, son of the President.

Carney, who is married and has four children, is well and favorably known in Worcester county. He is 57 years old and a graduate of Dartmouth and Boston University law school. His business and banking activities have resulted in a gradual withdrawal from law practice.

Carney is president of the Gardner Trust Company, and was recently elected vice-president of the newly organized New England Furniture Manufacturers' Association.

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TRANSCRIPT 7/29/33

# Public Waits for New Deal in Mayoralty

Politicians Report Decided  
Change in Sentiment Over  
Candidates

McCormack Looms  
for Democrats

Talk of Shattuck or Parkman  
Even in Such Wards as  
Lomasney's

By Forrest P. Hull

Though it is always difficult, if not impossible, to analyze the public mind in politics, many plain citizens and office-holders as well make bold to announce a decided change in sentiment over the coming mayoral election—a change which the so-called leaders and aspirants for office might do well to heed. From all over the city come reports that it will make mighty little difference whether a candidate is a Democrat or a Republican if he is an attractive, upstanding citizen with a fresh political viewpoint for the best interest of the city.

Everybody is talking of the "new deal" in national life as promulgated by President Roosevelt and wondering if it cannot be extended to city affairs. High taxes, loss of jobs, charges of municipal waste and extravagance and official favoritism have combined to put the public on its guard and to cause hundreds of thoughtful citizens to wonder if surprises are not in store for Boston before the final mayoral line-up in September.

It appears to be the general feeling that civic organization, rather than politicians, should take the lead in the effort to secure the right man for mayor. Members of the City Council who claim that they are nearer the pulse of the people than any other persons, declare that the day of political committees representing either the Democrat or Republican party is gone. They see little to attract public attention in the effort of Chairman John W. Newman of the Democratic City Committee to clear the field in behalf of the party; they laugh at any movement to drag in the old-time politicians as dictators.

## Candidates in the Council

It is no secret that there are a dozen or more would-be candidates for mayor in the City Council, even though Mr. Kelly of Dorchester is the only member to declare his intentions to enter the fight. These men are convinced that the public is ~~democratic~~ a young, wide-awake,

honest and fearless man, with not too much political background, to lead them in the fight, and naturally each of them believes he is the man with the necessary appeal. They say that 50,000 citizens will be voting for mayor in November for the first time, many of whom are out of work, disgusted with old-time leadership and hopeful of a "new deal." In other words, the younger element, according to members of the council, do not trust the men who have been in the political lime-light for many years and are praying for a new Moses.

How much dependence can be put on such talk in a showdown is a matter of question. That there is much of it in the wards goes without saying. Eminent citizens who framed the amended city charter in 1909 and had enough influence to cause its adoption, felt the same way about a change in public sentiment. Then they argued that Boston had been politics-ridden for so many years that it had eagerly awaited an opportunity to elect other than politicians to the city council and the mayoralty. The prediction was true only in part. The first election under the amended charter saw the late James Jackson Storrow defeated for the mayoralty by John F. Fitzgerald, but it did result in the election of a strikingly high-grade city council.

## Names to Conjure With

Since that time no really serious effort has been made on the part of citizens, personally or in groups, except that of the Good Government Association, to purge the city of its old-time political partisanship and control. If the time has now come it is without leadership and is probably destined to fail unless there can be a movement in which all classes of citizens are called upon to join for the public good.

Several names are suggested as candidates for Mayor wherever people gather to talk over the situation. Without reflecting on the character or political wisdom of the men who have been listed as mayoral aspirants, people are talking more and more of Congressman John W. McCormack of South Boston, Judge Walter L. Collins of Dorchester, Henry L. Shattuck and Senator Henry Parkman, Jr. Even down in the rock-ribbed Democratic West End Martin Lomasney's friends assert that it would not be impossible to carry the ward for such men as Shattuck, or Parkman, Republicans, if the situation is cleared for a clean-cut fight. Naturally Mr. Lomasney does not want to see a thing to turn up.

Another interesting illustration of the

new trend is reported from Charlestown. Councillor Thomas H. Green holds the district in the hollow of his hand. Presumably, he would like to throw his influence in favor of a Democratic candidate, but he and his friends can see no Democrat now in the running who has any particular appeal there. Consequently, there are more Nichols adherents in that strong Democratic ward than supporters of all the other candidates combined.

## Foley Men Inactive

When District Attorney William J. Foley started his campaign on March 17 in his native district, South Boston, his friends predicted that the situation would be immediately sewed up. Foley would sweep the city, they asserted, and thus preempt the field. But, so far as known, the Foley boom is slumbering. Everywhere one hears the suspicion that Foley will not go through. Moreover, the candidacy of Malcolm E. Nichols forged with startling rapidity for weeks until it apparently reached its peak at the time this candidate departed for his month's cruise. On the other hand the candidacies of former Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell and Frederick W. Mansfield have just started, the former making much headway in the last two weeks.

Such reports merely emphasize the opinion of the younger politicians or office-holders that the public is still awaiting the right man. Though everybody appears to be talking about the mayoralty, few are getting excited over it and permitting themselves to be counted in the final line-ups.

## Seek to Clear the Field

There are no keener politicians in town than Mayor Curley, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald, Fire Commissioner Edward J. McLaughlin, Councillor John I. Fitzgerald and Martin M. Lomasney. One could include a dozen more in the list, but the five will suffice to indicate the state of the public mind in the present situation. Each of these gentlemen realizes that unless something is done pretty soon, Boston will have a mayor in whom a majority of the people will have little confidence. They would like to see the field cleared for two or three candidates, but they don't know today, any more than they did a month or six weeks ago, how the feat can be accomplished, even though they express confidence it can be done. They are merely waiting, as the general public is waiting, for something to turn up.

During this unsatisfactory period, it must not be supposed that representatives of the high grade, independent citizenry, are asleep. People interested in the Good Government Association would welcome any serious attempt on the part of this or that organization to agree upon one or more candidates of distinction. These men have tried their best to induce men like Judge Michael H. Sullivan, Judge Collins, Mr. Shattuck and Mr. Parkman to enter the fight. They are still at work, it is rumored, and they naturally deplore any attempt to make of the election a partisan affair. They realize what appears to be a change of sentiment in the electorate and hope to capitalize it for the benefit of the city.

HERALD 7/30/33

# PUBLIC WORKS HEAD TO RETIRE

Rourke to Quit Sept. 1—

Christopher J. Carven  
in Charge

By JAMES GOGGIN

Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke will retire Sept. 1. He will be succeeded for the rest of the year by Christopher J. Carven, division engineer in charge of the water division, who has frequently been the acting public works commissioner during the past three years. Carven will be 70 years old in December.

Ill health, or more accurately a determination to prevent his present physical condition from becoming more threatening, forced Rourke to decide to quit. His decision was in no way related to the controversy which he started by informing Councilman Clement A. Norton that Hyde Park has been denied street and sidewalk improvements for two years because of Norton's refusal to vote in favor of bond issues for such purposes.

Rourke is not the most popular of city officials; but there is no one who can approach him in courage.

Whenever he has considered that Mayor Curley's judgment was not good on any subject he has told him so in phraseology which a schoolboy could both understand and interpret. And in return Curley has the highest regard not only for Rourke personally but for his judgment and his ability to direct the most important of municipal departments.

#### "POLITICAL LIABILITY"

"I hate to lose Joe," said the mayor yesterday when he announced that Rourke insisted on retiring after a 30-day leave in August. Some one remarked, "It has been said that Joe is a great friend but a political liability."

"That may be true," retorted the mayor. "He is blunt, outspoken and decisive; but no one has ever challenged the fact that he knows the business for which he was trained. I think that Joe Rourke has saved the city easily \$200,000 a year by compelling contractors to live up to contracts and by forcing inspectors to see that they do so. I do not want to have him go; but when Joe says he is going, he cannot be stopped. And he told me Thursday that he was determined to retire Sept. 1."

Rourke has not been in the best of health for the past two years but he has lately concluded that if he quit active work his chances of being around to tell the truth to whoever wants it would be much better than if he continued to devote himself to city business.

Those familiar with goings on in the mayor's office have known for years that Rourke would take issue with Curley whenever he considered he had justification and Rourke has never been afraid to test the Curley patience or to refuse to do what Curley thought should be done.

The mayor has invariably bowed to Rourke's judgment. He has seldom found him to be wrong and the bond of friendship which has existed between them has been a matter of great gratification to the mayor.

*It is no exaggeration to say that he*

would rather lose the aid and advice of a half dozen other officials than terminate Rourke's connection with the public works department. A year ago Rourke tried to quit; but the mayor talked him out of it. Last week he tried the same line of talk but Rourke was deaf to his proposals.

Beneath his superficial appearance of a hard-boiled martinet, Rourke has a warm heart. He is a kindly, generous man, who knows his business and who insists that everybody else should know his business.

Mayor Curley is proud of the street paving which has been laid in the city during his present administration. He believes that the city has received far more for the money of the taxpayers than at any other period and he credits the efficiency to Rourke.

The mayor was somewhat bothered yesterday. He was unable to figure out on whose ears the verbal shafts of Rourke would fall after Sept. 1. "If Joe can't fight with me," he said "that surely will take some of the joy out of his life. I confess that it will take much from me. I can say no more than that Joe Rourke is a great fellow and a city official whose service has had a value which is beyond appraisal.

# AMERICAN M'CORMACK IN MAYOR RACE AS CURLEY, DOWD END FEUD

By FRANCIS REILLY

Congressman John W. McCormack of Dorchester will be a candidate for election as Mayor of Boston next fall.

Plans are now under way to draft him as the compromise Democratic candidate to oppose former

Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols.

First official action in his behalf will be taken next Friday evening by City Councillor John F. Dowd of Roxbury at a meeting of his "Secret Fifty," local political office-holders, in the Hotel Statler.

Councillor Dowd stated last night that McCormack will be victorious in the fight.

"No Democrat who has yet been mentioned as a candidate for the office of mayor can be elected this year," Dowd said. "I intend to call upon Mayor Curley, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald, Martin M. Lomasney and all other leaders of the party to join with my group and with the Democratic city committee in a united effort to defeat former Mayor Nichols."

Dowd stated that he will present the McCormack candidacy to the "Secret Fifty" on Friday evening.

"To date I have received more than 1000 letters and telephone calls from voters who urge that we give official indorsement to the McCormack candidacy," he said.

Announcement of the McCormack candidacy followed the Roxbury councillor's admission that he and Mayor Curley are to meet tomorrow for the first time in three years and that the breach between them will be healed.

Dowd yesterday was invited by the mayor to discuss plans for various municipal improvements which are to be made under the terms of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

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on money is to be spent during the next four years in Boston for various construction projects.

But this money in the form of federal loans or otherwise is no gift to the people. In the long run it must be paid for. It will be perfectly easy to launch forth into new and extravagant ventures with the resultant burden upon the taxpayers. The choice of Mayor, therefore, takes on more importance than normally.

#### Land Taking Source of Profit

It may be that something is wrong with the form of government, that the present city charter is obsolete. But there is an opportunity for present reforms in administration, dependent almost entirely upon the character of the Mayor elected.

**There is less graft and corruption in Boston than many other large cities because of a fairly alert citizenry. But a prolific source of profit to the few, and coming out of the pockets of all the taxpayers, is the process involved in land takings for tunnels, schoolhouses and other similar projects.**

#### Made Net Profit of \$182,000

For instance it is stated by the Finance Commission that a profit of close to \$600,000 was made by speculators in the taking over of 16 parcels for the widening of North and Cross streets. According to the report one parcel was assessed for \$620,000. It was purchased under option and with a relatively small binder for \$500,000. The award of the city was \$682,000 or 10 per cent over the assessed valuation on the whole transaction. This left a net profit of \$182,000.

Another parcel assessed for \$283,000, was bought for \$180,000. The city awarded the assessed value plus 10 per cent or \$31,300 within two weeks of the time the property was bonded which left the neat profit of \$131,300.

#### Labor Gets Raw Deal

Labor gets a "raw deal" through the system employed in the award of many paving contracts. There is no question but that many changes might be effected to meet new conditions. Neither is there any doubt but that the insistent demands for these changes will be pressed upon the Legislature during the administration of the new Mayor who is to be elected in November.

To enumerate a few of the major suggestions.

First there is the clamour for the repeal of the present city charter and a return to party government. There is much to be said in favor of a return to the election of a Mayor and Council on party lines.

#### Not Responsible to Party

The present system has focussed power in the Mayor without giving him responsibility to any organization. If the party system were adopted the Mayor would be forced to assume such responsibility and the character of his administration would be judged accordingly.

The argument is advanced that Boston is an overwhelmingly Democratic city and that if elections were conducted on partisan lines, the minority party would seldom have a chance to control the government. This may or may not be the fact. But it would be up to both parties to advance men best fitted for the office and partisanship does not run so strong in this city that a crooked and inefficient Democrat could not readily be substituted for an able and high grade Republican.

#### No Objection to Run Off Primary

Instead of a system of little self-aggrandizing cliques, which has been the experience under the city charter, responsibility would be directly fixed on separate organized groups of voters.

A referendum on the question should be submitted within at least two years and in the interim it would do no harm to reinsert the recall provision at the same election.

Second is the question of a run off primary. So long as the elections are conducted under the present city charter there can be no objection to such a process. It would serve to eliminate candidates who have not fitness whatsoever for Mayor.

#### Argument Over Police Control

It would knock candidates off the ballot who are paid for running, so that they may serve the purposes of leaders who aspire to "be in on the dough" in the new administration.

Third, is the controversy over the control of the police, whether it should be in the hands of the Mayor or the Governor as at present. There is an argument both ways. It would seem that since the tax payers of Boston pay for the police that their elected representative, the Mayor, should name the commissioner. The principle of home rule is involved. On the other hand control of the police by the Mayor opens a wide field for graft. Conditions were scandalous when this was the rule. With all the current criticisms of the police department, it is rated as one of the cleanest and best organizations of its kind in the country.

#### Suggest Appointing Prosecutors

Fourth: A proposal will come before the investigating committee for the appointment of all district attorneys by the attorney general of the State instead of being elected in the various counties as at present. This is in line with the practice of the federal government. The theory is that elected district attorneys are tied up with and subject to ruling political powers in the cities in many instances.

**Appointed by the attorney-general they would be freed from these influences. This proposal is extremely important in the effort to check spreading crime and racketeering and offset its shady contacts with crooked politicians, conscienceless lawyers and weak judges.**

#### Move to Cut City Bureaus

Fifth is the proposal that the legislature shall define the scope and set up of city departments which are now subject to change by the Mayor and City Council. The tendency in Boston and elsewhere is to increase the number of departments and petty bureaucracies.

Various consolidations appear necessary in the interest of economy following the example set by President Roosevelt in his reorganization of the federal government. On a small scale the cities have been doing the same thing as the

federal government over a long process of time.

Sixth—The creation of a single head for control of the department of public welfare. Originally the 12 overseers visited the needy and paid out the money. Public relief has grown to be a tremendous problem in Boston as well as other cities and will continue to be so for years to come even when the depression is overcome and the country is rolling once more on the high tide of prosperity.

**All experience shows that once thousands get their hands in the public treasury it is difficult to overcome the habit. This was the experience of England and what with old age pensions and various other social reforms which are in the offing, all cities are faced with a huge fixed charge in the future. The present system would appear to be archaic.**

Seven—The proposal to give all city auditors continuity in office and to grant someone other than the Mayor power to review their acts. President Roosevelt has no control over the Comptroller of the United States Treas-

ury. He is subject only to Congress and his tenure of office is 15 years. Much of the fixing of accounts ending in misappropriations is due to collusion between Mayors and city auditors.

There are a few of the practical aspects of the "new deal" for municipalities which are already engaging the attention of more and more people. They are in a fair way to supplant the old-time considerations involving racial, religious and partisan prejudices as the determining factors in mayoralty elections.

*Chase*  
**ROURKE EXPECTED  
TO RETIRE SEPT 1**

Commissioner of Public Works Joseph A. Rourke will retire from the city service Sept 1, it is believed, as a result of the announcement, he was yesterday granted a leave of absence with pay for one month. Mr Rourke told Mayor Curley he had a month's leave coming, wished to take it, and would not return to the city service.

Mayor Curley said yesterday that he had advised Rourke to take an extended vacation because the veteran told him his health was not all he desired.

A year ago last Winter it was said Mr Rourke's health was impaired and that he was through, but he came back after basking in the sunshine at Miami Beach. His friends now expect that L st will do for him this Summer what Miami Beach did on the other occasion.

Christopher J. Carven, in charge of the water division of the city, will, as on other occasions when Mr Rourke was on vacation, take over the duties of Commissioner of Public Works.

Commenting on Rourke's retirement, Mayor Curley said that Rourke was a great asset to the city, making contractors live up to their contracts and saving the city \$200,000 annually.

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# HUB ELECTION VEXES FARLEY

## Wants Roosevelt Democrat Elected But Realizes Hands Tied Lest He Causes Big Party Row

BY ROBERT L. NORTON

Voters in the coming mayoralty elections in Boston, as well as other cities, are bound to be influenced by the swiftly changing political and economic developments in the nation.

In a period when the country is engaged in the revolutionary experiment of the "new deal," when new political theories are being advocated and put into practice, it is inevitable that the government of the municipalities will reflect the vast upheaval and radical changes.

### DEMAND END TO GRAFT

People generally, I think, are more alert to the responsibilities of government and those who govern than ever before. There is less patience with mediocrity, with waste, extravagance and corruption and a growing demand for character and ability in public officials.

The tacit acceptance of graft and looseness in the administration of public office, which has been characteristic of a large number of voters in the big as well as the smaller cities of the country for some decades, is now giving away and calls for an extension of the "new deal" to this form of government.

### Most Cities Nearly Bankrupt

Indifference, ignorance and a hopeless apathy on the part of large bodies of the voters has been largely responsible for bringing the cities to their present plight. Most of the large cities of the country, and the smaller cities as well, are either bankrupt or on the verge of it.

No great progress towards recovery can be made alone through reforms in the administration and costs of the federal government. The very essence of success lies with the cities of the country. It seems to me that there is an awakening realization of this fact. There are signs that the contagion of the "new deal" has caught on in the cities.

### Rise Against Tammany Looting

Evidence of restlessness on the part of the voters of the cities is

multiplied. There is the instance of the tremendous vote given to McKeen in New York last fall, even although his name was not on the ballot. It represented an uprising against the looting of Tammany. To a lesser degree nearly every city in the country has been in the hands of groups of political racketeers.

The new political consciousness, if I am right in asserting that such a phenomena has made its appearance, is variously explained. Some observers say that under the terrific stress of the depression, people have become tax conscious.

### Link Happiness to Government

If this be true then the depression may have served as a blessing in disguise. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. One thing is pretty certain, which is that an increasingly large number of people have come to the realization that much of their happiness and prosperity in life is bound up with the kind of government for which they are responsible. The conduct of government is no longer a thing apart from their daily lives.

The common garden-variety type of politician is apt to interpret the overwhelming upset in the last national election as an extraordinary and convincing victory for the Democratic party.

### Protest May Affect Hub Vote

It was no such thing. Great masses of voters were never less swayed by strictly partisan considerations. In fact it was a huge and desperate protest against conditions and the seeming impotency of the party in control to overcome or remedy these conditions.

If this same protest has not run its course by the time of the municipal elections in the fall, then we may see it reflected in the choice of Mayors in the principal cities, Boston included.

Politicians naturally run to the idea that great advantage is to be gained by tying the tail of their kites to the omnipotent Mr. Roosevelt. In the role of humble followers, or by seeming to share in his ideals, they hope to attract votes to their candidacies.

### Farley Not to Make Blunder

Thus is the hope expressed that Chairman Farley of the Democratic national committee, in the role of party leader and spokesman for the President, will

intervene to support some one of the numerous candidates for Mayor of Boston.

Of course, even with the non-partisan character of the laws under which Boston is now operating, Farley would like to see a 100 per cent Roosevelt-Democrat Mayor of the city. It is important to have a Democratic Mayor and a Democratic organization for the Senatorial and Congressional contests of 1934.

But obviously the super shrewd Mr. Farley would not pick one candidate as against another in the present field. To do so would precipitate the finest row in the Democratic party here in all history.

### Farley Might Ask Kirstein

It might prove both logical and consistent, however, for Farley to indicate that in the present circumstances, possibly the best interests of both the party and the city would be served by the election of some such citizen as Louis E. Kirstein.

Kirstein is a Democrat by practice and conviction but he is set far apart from the average run of candidates for office. The difference and distinguishing characteristic is that he is not a candidate, and to become one would represent a very real and personal sacrifice, only to be compensated by the conviction that he was serving the city to which he already made large contributions of time, money and intelligently applied energy.

### Would Fit Picture If Available

Since the death of James J. Storrow there are many who believe that Kirstein has fairly won the distinction of being Boston's first citizen. Reputably one of the foremost business leaders of the country, he is now serving as one of the key men in the administration's programme for national recovery. A self-effacing man, he has translated President Roosevelt's social and philosophical ideals into business and public service.

I have not the remotest idea whether or not Kirstein is available, but if this were the case he would fit into the picture which I have described as being in the minds of a good many citizens who are hoping that something of the spirit of the "new deal" in the federal government will carry through into municipal government.

### \$35.50 Tax Nearly Confiscatory

Signs of restlessness and the demand for a change are evident in the action of the Legislature in naming a recess committee to report on changes in the city charter. There was an amazingly close vote on the proposal for a runoff primary despite the political complexion of the Legislature.

Those who live in Boston can take scant satisfaction in the fact that the people of the city are a little better off than the people of other major cities. All the argument and propaganda in the world cannot controvert the fact that the tax rate is \$35.50 and that such a rate comes close to being confiscatory on real estate.

### Federal Loan Must Be Repaid

Neither does there seem to be any immediate prospect of reduction with an increasing deficit in the "El," the reduction of State income, larger State assessments, progressive reductions in property values and a stagnant waterfront.

The immediate problem is to elect a Mayor who has the character and the ability to meet these problems with the best in

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HERB

## IT DOES NOT LOOK GOOD

The latest bulletin of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau contains further evidence of a disturbing kind in relation to our lack of prudence in the conduct of municipal affairs.

Of the thirteen American cities with a population in excess of 500,000, Boston shows up as the most wasteful. Our per capita expenditure is \$12 higher than that of Tammanyized New York, which is second on the list. We spend about \$37 annually per capita more than Baltimore, which has the rank of honor at the foot of the tabulation.

In adjusted tax rates, too, Boston holds a place not to be envied. Ours was next to the highest in 1928. We improved in 1929, four other rates topping ours, but in the last three years our adjusted tax rate has been higher than that of the cities at which we point in scorn, New York and Chicago, and higher than that of any other of the large cities.

The defence will be made that these figures do not tell the whole story. That is correct. Statistics seldom do. Conditions vary between cities. The relations to the state and the county may be different. In some instances, expenses are imposed by the state and there is no control of certain departments. Boston, for example, has little to say about the sums spent by the police and school departments. Area, character of industries, surrounding territory, purely local conditions and various phases of debt requirements make an exact statistical comparison impossible.

But even when we make the proper allowances, a great deal is left which is not to our credit. These two broad groups of figures, prepared impartially and not designed for political use, give Boston such a bad ranking that obviously we are not doing the job which is possible in an enlightened community. Our municipal officials will probably pooh-pooh the comparison and try to prove that they are entirely misleading. But do you think that, if the figures showed Boston with a lower per capita expenditure and a lower adjusted tax rate than any other city, those same officials would fail to cite them as conclusive evidence of the splendid economical government of Boston?

There are signs now that we are about to go on a financial bender which will leave a bad after-taste and cause a headache for many years. Of the various projects now suggested, many will involve heavy carrying charges, such as the Huntington avenue subway extension, a City Hospital building and street undertakings. Apparently the city, state and nation are committed for some time to the policy of spending for the sake of spending, and for the purpose of reducing unemployment. But there are advisable and inadvisable means of disbursing the huge sums.

We should avoid a lengthening of the list of city employes and a fattening of the city pay rolls. We ought to keep in mind the fact that we have a heavy Elevated deficit, and that there is absolutely no reason to believe that we shall ever have again the volume of traffic which seemed possible as recently as when we built the Cambridge tunnel. We should keep our eye constantly on the meeting of obligations, the safeguarding of the credit of the city, the reduction of the tax rate, the burden on real estate, the waste which inevitably accompanies an extension of government functions. New deal or old deal, needless spending results in painful results.



THE LION OF LUCERNE DECIDES TO "LIE DEAD" IN MISS MARY CURLEY'S PRESENCE

G h o B 12 7/30/33

# POLITICS AND POLITICIANS

By JOHN D. MERRILL

The nomination of Joseph P. Carney of Gardner to be United States collector of internal revenue at Boston surprised the Democratic politicians in this part of the State, whether or not it was unexpected to United States Senators David I. Walsh and Marcus A. Coolidge, who live so near Mr Carney's home city that they may almost be described as his neighbors. There seems to be no doubt that Senator Walsh had proposed another candidate to succeed Thomas W. White. One of the rumors now in circulation is that James Roosevelt was responsible for the nomination.

It is becoming the habit among the politicians to assign to young Mr Roosevelt the blame or credit for any Federal appointment in Massachusetts if no other explanation can be found, and that is the case in this instance. The President's son is probably held responsible for many things with which he has had little to do. Other people are doubtless consulted about the Federal offices in this State. The President's secretary, Louis McH. Howe, is a Massachusetts man, and the chances are that he has something to say about these matters. Robert Jackson, secretary of the Democratic National Committee, claims residence in New Hampshire, but he has had a house and an office in this city, and his knowledge of local men may be drawn on, although he probably does not take an active hand outside his own State. Then there are the two United States Senators, Gov Joseph B. Ely who is the Massachusetts member of the Democratic National Committee and Mayor James M. Curley, whose diligent efforts in behalf of the President when the latter was a candidate for the post he now holds will not go unrewarded. James Roosevelt, it may be assumed, is one of the group of men whose opinions are desired, but he is by no means the only one.

President Roosevelt finds the situation troublesome in this State because of the two factions existing here. On one side are Gov Ely, the two Senators, Ex-Mayor John F. Fitzgerald, and the other leaders who brought about the election of Smith delegates to the Democratic National Convention. By far the most prominent man on the other side is Mayor Curley, who did everything in his power to elect Roosevelt delegates; the Mayor's first lieutenant in that contest was James Roosevelt. If these two factions would agree about appointments to Federal offices there would be no serious bother here, but, so long as they differ, the President may appoint men who have not been suggested by either side. He apparently did so in Mr Carney's case and may act in like manner with regard to the other important places.

## The Federal Offices

Gov Ely's friends say that he is not bothering much about the Federal offices. He is not greatly interested in such matters, and the appointments to State positions give him all the trouble he cares to assume. The

Massachusetts member of the Democratic National Committee under ordinary circumstances, would have as much influence as anybody when the President took up his nominations for this State, but those who ought to know believe that Gov Ely feels little concern therewith. His sympathies, of course, are with Senator Walsh.

In the gossip now going the rounds about the appointment of Ex-Gov Fuller to the board which will make recommendations for the use of Federal funds on public works in the State, the statement has been frequently made that the selection of Mr Fuller was a direct slap at Gov Ely. It must be remembered that what the newspapers print about these things is merely gossip and not history. Gov Ely and Ex-Gov Fuller said some rather sharp things about each other in last year's political campaign, but that fact would not make it impossible for either to assent to the appointment of the other to a place which he was fitted to fill. No one has any doubts about Mr Fuller's qualifications for his new office.

The three important Federal offices which remain to be filled in Massachusetts are those of United States district attorney, United States marshal and immigration commissioner. There are many candidates for each of those places. Rumor has it that ex-Representative Charles H. McGlue, for many years chairman of the Democratic State Committee, seems at present to have the lead in the race for the succession to Frederick H. Tarr as district attorney. At least two women, Miss Ward of this city, and Mrs Sullivan of Fall River, would like the place from which Mrs Tillinghast resigned a few weeks ago, and several well known Democrats have ambitions to take over Col Keville's post, but there is no way of telling who the fortunate ones will be.

James A. Farley, Postmaster General and chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said in his magazine article, recently published, that preference would be given in Federal appointments to the Democrats who had supported the President before he won his nomination. If that rule is followed in this State, Mayor Curley and his friends have reason to expect consideration from the national administration, but it may well be that the President will avoid giving needless offense to Senator Walsh. It seems safe to guess that the appointment of Mr Carney, as has been said, was agreeable to the senior Senator from this State.

## For Mayor of Boston

The contest for the mayoralty of Boston grows more confusing every day. Some of the local Democratic leaders are doing everything they can to persuade the national Administration to take a hand in the fight, on the ground that the election of a Republican, namely, Ex-Mayor Malcolm E. Nichols, would be regarded throughout the country as a reflection on President Roosevelt. It would be surprising indeed if Mr Farley, who

handles the politics for the President, mixed in a local squabble.

The Democrats are violating the spirit of the Boston charter when they try to choose a Mayor on political lines, but there is no illegality in their course. If they think the election of Mr Nichols for a second term would bring disaster to the city they have the certain remedy in their own hands. What they must do is to cause the withdrawal of all but one of the Democrats now in the field; if that can be done, Mr Nichols' defeat will probably be made certain, for the Democrats in the city outnumber the Republicans two to one. To be sure, there is evidence that Mr Nichols now has considerable Democratic support, but it would not be enough to elect him in case the great majority of the Democrats united on another candidate.

If all of the candidates remain in the contest, the Good Government Association will play an important part in the election. Two of those now running, Mr Nichols and Frederick W. Mansfield, have had the endorsement of that organization, but there is no assurance that either will receive it this year. Each would be greatly strengthened by that support, and some of the politicians are disposed to think that neither can be elected without it.

The Good Government Association must, in the first place, decide whether it will find a candidate of its own and put him in the field, or endorse one of those now running. The respective friends of Ex-Dist Atty Thomas C. O'Brien and Ex-Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell hope that the association will see fit to endorse their favorite; inasmuch as each of these has considerable strength of his own, it is argued that the Good Government Association, by swinging its vote to one or the other, could assure his election. The same reasoning applies to Ex-Mayor Nichols. The politicians think that Mr Mansfield will be out of the running unless he has the Good Government endorsement. The important question at the moment seems to be whether the Good Government leaders think they can introduce a new candidate who will have a good chance of election.

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# No Federal Patronage for Walsh or Curley; James Roosevelt Head Dispenser of Plums

By W. E. MULLINS

On the basis of the federal appointments that have been made thus far in Massachusetts by President Roosevelt, the conclusion is inescapable that the recommendations of Senator Walsh and Mayor Curley are being almost completely ignored and that the actual distribution of the jobs is being directed by James Roosevelt.

The appointments of U. S. attorney, immigration commissioner and U. S. marshal are expected to be announced within the next 10 days and judging from the nominations already made those Democrats who supported Alfred E. Smith against Mr. Roosevelt in the presidential primary election last year have little chance of being considered.

The three appointments traced directly to the influence of the President's son are of Joseph P. Carney of Gardner to be collector of internal revenue, George C. Sweeney of Gardner to be assistant U. S. attorney-general and former Gov. Fuller to the public works administration board.

Gov. Ely is the national committeeman, but he has carefully avoided exposing himself to being rebuffed by taking no part in the distribution of the jobs. On his own word, he has not asked for a single appointment or submitted a single recommendation. The appointment of Mr. Fuller, however, was a direct slap at the Governor, as he has been. Mr. Ely's severest critic since he has been in office. Now Mr. Fuller finds himself in a position to have much to say about public works construction projects in Massachusetts which will have the Governor's approval.

The surprising appointment of Mr. Carney to be collector of internal revenue probably will result in putting a complete quietus on speculation about the remaining appointments. Mr. Carney's name had not been publicly associated with the appointment of collector prior to the President's announcement. Mr. Carney chuckled gleefully at the amazement which was provoked by the announcement of his appointment.

## RECESS APPOINTMENT

Mr. Carney, of course, has only a recess appointment. His nomination must be confirmed by the Senate next December; but his background as a lawyer, banker and businessman apparently gives him such broad qualifications that it will be difficult to block his confirmation, if indeed, any attempt is made to block it.

It is not at all surprising to see punishment being meted out to those Democrats who supported Mr. Smith. This is merely an eloquent demonstration of the old political doctrine that to the victor belongs the spoils. Had Mr. Smith been elected President, no Roosevelt supporter even would be seriously considered for any one of the offices.

That little strip of northern Worcester county which includes Gardner, Fitchburg and Clinton has taken on new political importance now because

from this narrow district hail the two U. S. senators, the collector of internal revenue and an assistant U. S. attorney-general. The Boston Democrats will not like that, and it makes Mayor Curley's position here in Boston more embarrassing than it ever was. He picked a winner in the presidential election; but he has drawn a joker out of the new deal.

Meanwhile, Gov. Ely is having his troubles with political patronage. To the two new vacancies created on the state board of tax appeals by new legislation he named two Democrats from the western section of the state, Civil Service Commissioner Paul E. Tierney of Westfield and Richard P. Stapleton of Holyoke.

These jobs were created only for a period of four years and if the Legislature fails to make them permanent in 1937 they will be abolished. Among the Boston Democrats who resented these appointments is Representative Frank J. McFarland who has threatened to make an attempt to block confirmation of the two nominations in the hope that such a procedure will compel the Governor to appoint a Boston man.

Mr. Tierney is glad to be rid of his job on the civil service commission. He probably will be succeeded there by Fire Marshal James M. Hurley of Marlboro with the fire marshal's job being given to Timothy J. Driscoll of Boston who wanted to go on the tax appeal board.

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

Herman A. MacDonald probably will be reappointed to the public works commission. This board now is composed of three Republicans and the Governor was anxious to put a Democrat in Commissioner MacDonald's place but Commissioner Frank E. Lyman has urged his reappointment and his request is likely to be granted this week. Mr. MacDonald has been serving as a holdover since December. He could be civil service commissioner if he would accept it but he is not interested. The civil service job now pays only \$4500 a year and it's a full time job with plenty of grief attached to it.

A highly desirable job will be available this month in the state department of corporations and taxation through the retirement of Edward A. Doherty of Cambridge, the first deputy tax commissioner. The second deputy is Francis O. P. Carlson of Winchester, who was assistant secretary to former Gov. Allen.

The filling of the numerous vacancies in the state service was delayed by the Governor purposely until the prorogation of the Legislature. Of course, the appointments to the crime commission and the numerous recess commissions had to await the end of the legislative session, but many of the others could have been made months ago.

Speaker Saltonstall and President Fish caught the boys by surprise when they ignored the opportunity to appoint the full membership of the legal affairs committee to the task of draw-

ing up a new code of hard liquor laws. This committee handled this legislation during the last session and it was expected that because of the familiarity of the members with the subject they would be given first call.

The speaker, however, appointed only three legal affairs committeemen to the recess board and he placed Representative Ernest H. Sparrell of Norwell ahead of Representative Kendrick H. Washburn of Middleboro, who was House chairman of the legal affairs committee.

## GESTURE TO HAYS

The appointment of Mr. Sparrell was a gesture to Representative Martin Hays of Brighton. Representatives Sparrell and Hays are intimate associates in fact Mr. Sparrell is Mr. Hays' choice for election to the post of speaker in 1935. Mr. Hays has been anxious to keep a finger on the hard liquor law code, just as he was so keenly interested in the beer legislation last April.

Mr. Hays's interest is baffling in view of the fact that he always has been recorded as a dry in votes on prohibition measures.

Councillor Daniel H. Coakley of Brighton is being hailed as a reformer at the State House as a result of a recent disclosure that he followed a newly established precedent by paying out of his own pocket for the stationery bearing the state seal with which he has been circularizing lawyers in obtaining support for his attempt to be reinstated to the Massachusetts bar.

He had been subjected to some criticism for using this stationery for such a personal venture and when attention was called to this alleged unethical practice an investigation disclosed that he had paid the commonwealth \$75 for the stationery.

State officials frequently have used state-sealed stationery for their personal wants without attention being called to it; but State Treasurer Charles F. Hurley broke away from the custom by purchasing his own state stationery out of his private funds. His letterheads carried an inscription calling attention to the fact that it was privately paid for.

Councillor Coakley paid scant attention to the criticism, but he apparently seriously resented being called a "reformer."

The second last bill signed by Gov. Ely before prorogation last Sunday morning was the act placing the regulation of the trucking industry under the control of the state department of public utilities. This became one of the most controversial bills that came before the Senate and yet it slid through the House without a record vote. The greatest impetus given this bill came from Arthur P. Russell, vice-president of the New Haven railroad. He appeared before the committee on transportation in support of it and then proceeded to follow its progress right through until it was given executive approval.

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extremely pleased at the hopeful outlook and the picture of the restoration of the faith of the American people in their purpose to end the depression during the present year under the leadership and with the program outlined by the President.

"I was naturally interested in a query by His Holiness as to affairs in Boston and the great centers of the United States. I was pleased with his intimate knowledge not only of conditions here in the last few years but of things up to the moment of my arrival.

"With reference to Boston it gave me pleasure to tell His Holiness that our city has met every obligation, both human and financial, during the past four years of depression and will experience no great difficulty in providing for needy people during the year.

#### SHIPPING PROGRESS

"Italian shipping under the policy of Premier Mussolini is progressing. His policy of constructing for the tourist trade and travel the best possible ships has proved wise. They have been doing a capacity business. The change from Genoa to Naples as a landing port has helped.

"Passengers formerly journeyed out of Italy into Germany, Austria and Switzerland because of the long rail run from Genoa to Rome. The change has aided the tourist trade.

"The Premier, so far as his work is concerned, is devoting—if that were possible—even more time and attention to public affairs than at any time in the past. He has been obliged to reduce meeting visitors to the absolute minimum in order to devote more time to the problems of the people and the country. It is a departure that might well be adopted by chief executives in every country.

#### HE WORKS LATE

"My appointment with the Premier was for 7:15. I assume that others were scheduled for interviews later that evening, so that his is more than a full day with no limit to hours. He begins at 8 in the morning. However, he does not show the strain. His face is cheerful and determined and full of optimism—the same as when I saw him two years ago. There is progress in every city and town in Italy due to the Premier.

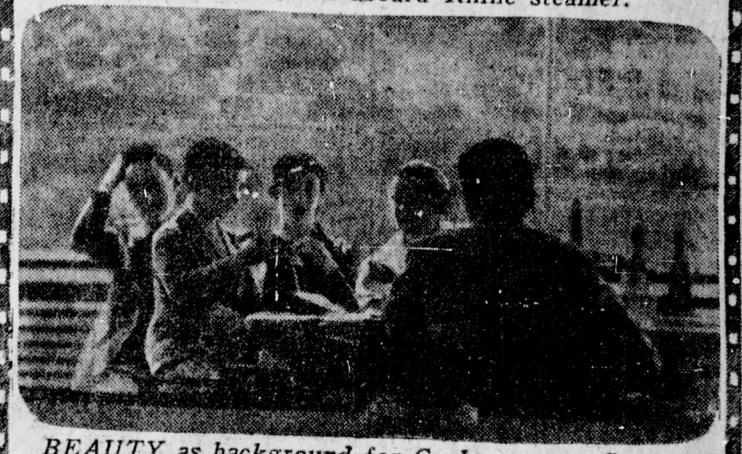
"In Germany it is plain that the Hitler movement is almost identical in character with the Fascism of Italy. The same form of salute is everywhere in evidence and a large portion of the population wear the brown shirt.

"From what I gathered unemployment has been reduced and the credit is given by the people to the Hitler regime, rightly or wrongly.

"The flag of the Nazi is found in every city and town. Apparently the people are very well united in the movement. It is, of course, in the nature of an experiment. The outcome is impossible to predict.



MISS MARY CURLEY, mayor's daughter, resting in luxurious salon aboard Rhine steamer.



BEAUTY as background for Curley party—George, Francis, Miss Mary, Walter Quinn and Leo.

Since my return to Boston we have drafted a program in conformity with President Roosevelt's plan through which I believe opportunities for work for many thousands will be provided. Public funds spent for wages and material will go into the arteries of trade and a speedy increase in activities is shortly to be expected."

## HEALTH FORCES ROURKE TO QUIT

Continued ill health yesterday caused Public Works Commissioner Joseph A. Rourke to inform Mayor Curley that he will go on the retired list on Sept. 1. In the meantime, Rourke will take a four-weeks leave of absence with pay.

Rourke's action was not taken as a result of his letter to City Councillor Norton of Hyde Park in which he stated that streets in that district were not being repaired because of political disputes

between the councillor and Mayor Curley, it was said at City Hall.

Mayor Curley said Rourke will be succeeded by Christopher J. Carven who is himself scheduled to go on the retired list in December when he reaches the age of 70. Carven is now deputy public works commissioner.

"Joe was a great asset to the city," the mayor said, "but because of his frankness he was a political liability to me. He never played a favorite and his honest administration of his office saved the taxpayers an average of \$200,000 a year."

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# Curley Found Pope and Mussolini Great Workers

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## "They Perform Prodigies of Personal Labor," He Says

### Movie of Curley Party's 'Watch on River Rhine'



MAYOR JAMES M. CURLEY cooling off aboard the steamer on his cruise along the Rhine.



WALTER K. QUINN refreshes himself while Miss Mary Curley and others, not in photo, look on.

#### ◆ Mayor Tells of Progress Towards Prosperity in Italy and Germany

Mayor Curley, summing up yesterday his observations on his trip to Italy and other European countries, described a striking likeness between Pope Pius XI and Mussolini—their immense capacity for work and their deep, informed interest in what is going on in the world.

The mayor discussed three big figures of Europe, the Pope, Mussolini and Hitler.

The mayor related constructive labors being conducted by the Vatican and the Italian and German governments, which are helping to restore their part of the world to prosperity. The Pope he found to be so interested in affairs that he is minutely informed of up-to-the-minute events in Boston. He was lost in wonder and admiration of the immense capacity of His Holiness. Though advanced in years, he is so serene and takes such an alert and active interest in his work that one cannot guess the state of his health.

Mussolini is doing even more than the mayor noted two years ago—if that is possible. He is personally toiling late into the evenings and can present in return for his labor an Italy constantly improving in condition.

#### GERMANY BETTER OFF

So it goes, also, in Germany, said Mayor Curley. The regime is patterned after Italian fascism and is experimental but it appears as if employment were growing and that want is disappearing. Mayor Curley said:

"In our audience with the Pope, His Holiness appeared to be in excellent health, even though he is performing more than should be required of 10 men, due to the fact that this is Holy Year and hundreds of thousands of Pilgrims are in Rome from all over the world.

"It seems difficult to determine anything other than the mental condition of the great spiritual leader of the world, due to the fact that he has acquired a serenity of mind that permits him to perform prodigies of labor without the worry common to other individuals.

#### SIGNED IT HIMSELF

"In sending his special blessing to Boston and its people the signature instead of being by secretary was signed by the Pontiff himself. His Holiness is

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weather was clear and there was plenty of sunshine. Most of the men passengers had on berets to get the sunshine on their faces and to keep the wind out of the hair.

The Mayor, always ready to join the majority except when he thinks it is wrong, which is very seldom, bought himself a beret in the Bremen's haberdashery. Mr Curley came to like the beret very much.

Mr Curley's adoption of the beret doubtless will stimulate local sales. Popular as it has been for a decade all over Europe among men, the beret never has been a big seller here among adults, although boys and girls in their teens gave it quite a whirl three or four years ago.

The beret originated with the Basques, French and Spanish peasants beyond the Pyrenees.

### Fine Vacation

"It was a truly wonderful vacation, a deeply satisfying and refreshing experience for my children and myself, and, with us as with everyone, the best part of it all was coming back to home, sweet home!" Mayor Curley feelingly exclaimed to a Globe man, yesterday afternoon, when asked to review his six-weeks' European vacation. The Mayor and two children enjoyed a European outing in 1931, not so extensive as this one.

"Like all who see them, we marveled at the wonders of the Eternal City. Indeed, Rome's beauty is above and beyond all I have ever read or heard about it.

"It was most gratifying to have another half-hour audience with His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, to see how ardently he labors still for human welfare and how his health and spirit seem to thrive in good works.

"And it was our privilege in Rome to be present at the consecration of Bishop James A. Walsh, co-founder of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, well-known in Greater Boston, and whom I knew as a faithful curate in St. Patrick's Church, Roxbury.

"That afternoon we visited St. Peter's in Rome, and I shall not to my last breath forget its beauties, dressed as it was for the great Holy Year ceremonies, and quite continually thronged with pilgrims from all corners of the world. Its own lofty architectural graces, its peaceful grandeur, now emphasized by the scarlet tapestries contrasting with the mellow glints of the 1000 chandeliers, are unforgettable.

### Big Celebration

"Some carping critics at our own public celebrations here at home ought to have a chance to see how prodigally



WHERE DID HE GET THAT HAT? the Florentines celebrated the Feast of the Apostles, Peter and Paul. I estimated that the fireworks display alone must have cost \$10,000. Afterward, there was a band concert in each of the public squares of Florence. Everything went forward with utmost orderliness. Everyone seemed to be having a joyous time in a quiet way. My general observations in Europe led me to think that, as a people, they know best how to enjoy life in the simplest ways.

"From Florence we went to Naples and then out to Sorrento, where we gazed upon perpetually-smoking Vesuvius, and at the farther Appenines. We got another big eyeful in the scenic wonders of the island of Capri.

"Then we took a train for Switzerland and Interlaken, and the memorable view there of the moon rising behind Mt. Pilatus, casting its silvery glow upon the rugged, jagged, snow-capped peaks of the Jungfrau.

"Thence over to Berlin and Vienna, and it was in these cities, recovering from their post-war crippled conditions, that I saw developments which Boston needs. These were the colony-apartments or small single dwellings, built by the city governments with taxpayers' money and let at rates in which the profit factor is eliminated, the rental being based upon amortization of the structural cost and upkeep.

### House 64,000 Families

"In Vienna alone, multiple apartments or single houses built on this financing principle or built by small

groups aided by extension to the city credit, are housing 64,000 families.

"The first and most direct benefit is that unsafe and unsanitary tenement sections have been obliterated. On their sites now are houses where folk may live as human beings ought to live, with all the decent elementary accommodations of life, and a maximum of sunlight, when it is available, and natural light besides.

"Many other progressive folk think with me that certain sections of our own North, West and South Ends would benefit by the introduction of some such principle here in Boston. Some of the world's best minds think that this movement so notable in Vienna is the forerunner to a great evolution by which civilized mankind is to rebuild its homes, according to modern needs in housing.

"The decrease in illness and mortality in Vienna, and the distinct increase noted in the good health and the good spirits of the people, who have undergone the direct exactions and deprivations in the period since the war, certainly speak volumes in its favor.

"We could profitably copy, here, too, the enthusiasm of the Viennese for vegetable-gardens and flower-gardens. Each community-constructed dwelling has both types of gardens, and a most conspicuous phase of this whole development are the safety play-spaces given over to children. With the sun streaming down upon 'em, the little ones wade and dip themselves in broad, shallow pools of fresh water.

"Each of the bigger colony developments have community laundries, where the housewife, with the aid of all modern mechanical equipment, the use of which is procured at low cost, can do the family washing and have the clothes dried and ironed in a few hours.

"And if the mother must be absent daily from home at a job then children may be checked in the community nursery at small cost, under careful, competent, cheerful nursemaids. Then each of these community apartments has a dental clinic, gymnasium, kindergarten and other such wholesome features for the health and general welfare of the little ones.

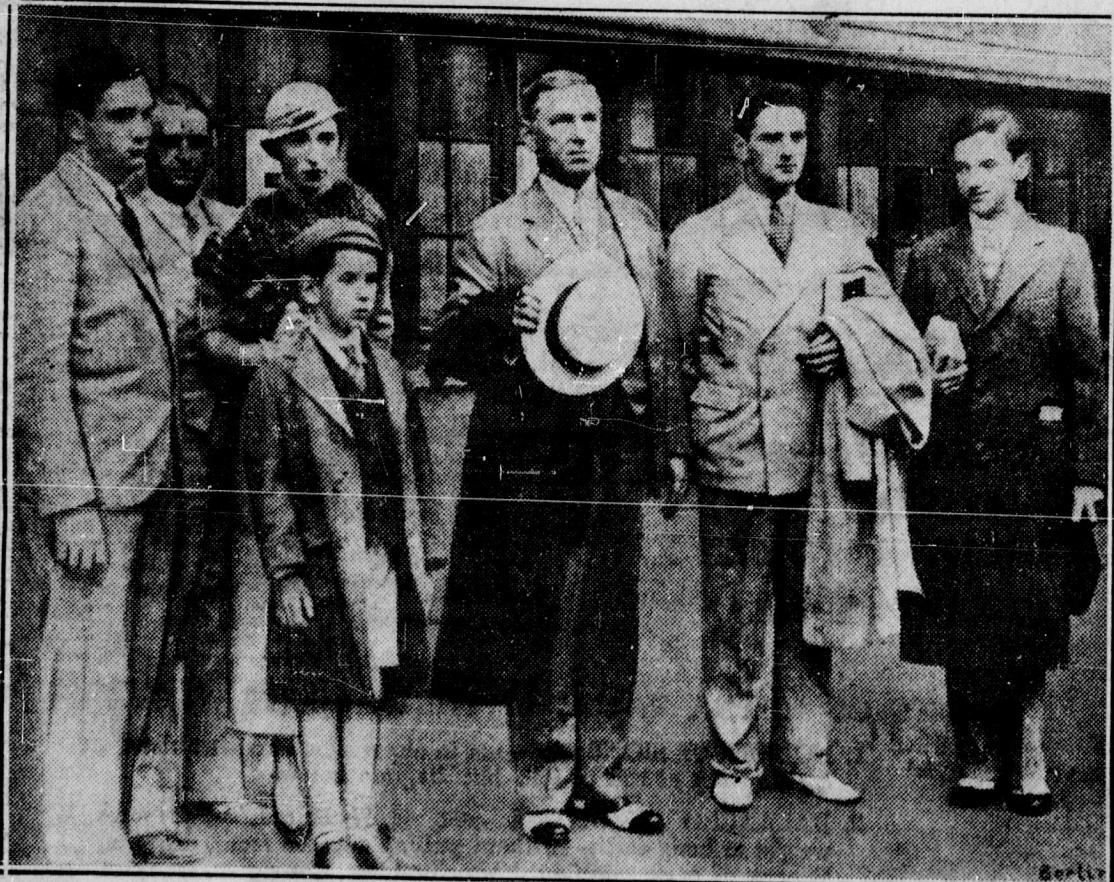
"The middle class and poorer families of Berlin know all about and are anxious to have their City Government duplicate more extensively these Vienna model tenements. Vienna is away ahead of Berlin in this matter, and in the latter capital I was told that some 25,000 Berlin families are on the waiting list, anxious to move into municipally-constructed apartment colonies and single dwellings on the city's outskirts, as fast as any are vacated, or as soon as any new ones can be built.

"After having enjoyed the spiritual, architectural and scenic beauties of Europe you are the more impressed with the practical improvements realized in these dwellings in Vienna and Berlin. Here, at last, is an actual, successful movement in behalf of those who need it most, and it is giving them the vital, fundamental thing which every child born upon the earth needs first—a sanitary, wholesome, cheerful place to dwell."

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# MAYOR CURLEY, HOME FROM EUROPE, HITS NEW SARTORIAL NOTE IN BERLIN

His Jaunty Looking Hat, on Return, Sets Admirers Aglow—  
He Praises Housing System in Vienna—Tells of  
Another Audience With the Pope



CURLEY PARTY AWAITING BERLINER BAHNHOF TRAIN BOUND FOR STEAMSHIP BREMEN

Standing on Berlin's "North Station" platform, left to right, Leo Curley, J. Walter Quinn, Miss Mary and little Francis Curley, the Mayor, Paul and George Curley.

Boston's inimitable Mayor Curley struck a new note for himself in sartorial artistry and Bohemianism when he strode down the gangplank of the liner Bremen in New York last week, wearing a jaunty-looking beret.

New York's Jimmy Walker, whom Curley worshippers had never considered more than a faint echo of their idol, had set this style for American Mayors by wearing a beret

on his arrival home from his last European trip while Walker was still holding down the Mayoralty, two years ago. Walker's beret was of immaculate white wool.

But Mayor Curley in a beret was certainly something new under the sun. Curleyites saw at once that the beret set off well the Mayor's classic brow and was a better frame for his jovial holiday smile than the hard-boiled bowler or the size nine felt hat which usually tops his states-

manlike stature here at home.

If these sentiments were not heartily approved by local admirers of the Mayor who have mental reservations, like John F. Fitzgerald, Martin M. Lomasney, Alexander Whiteside, et al, these gave out no public statements about the Curley beret.

The beret came innocently enough by, or perhaps it is better stated, Mr. Curley came innocently enough by the beret. On the first day of the Bremen's homeward voyage, the

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# URGES THAT M'CORMACK BE DRAFTED

Councillor Dowd Says  
Leaders Ought to  
Compromise

A movement to draft Congressman John W. McCormack of South Boston as a compromise candidate in Boston's mayoralty fight was launched last night by City Councillor John F. Dowd of Roxbury, in a message to the Democratic Senators, Representatives and Councillors of the city, calling them into meeting next Friday night at the Hotel Statler.

## ON WEEK-END TOUR

Whether the South Boston congressman would consent to be drafted was a matter of dispute last night, as he could not be reached, having started off Friday on a motoring tour. His intimate friends insisted that he could not be persuaded recently by influential leaders who went to Washington and urged him to give up his seat for a possible four-year term at City Hall.

Serving on some of the most influential committees in Congress, he preferred to remain at Washington where he could deliver valuable assistance during the Roosevelt administration, and possibly run for Mayor four years hence.

## Appeal to Leaders

But Councillor Dowd contended last night that Congressman McCormack would be forced to heed the call of the Democratic leaders here and pass up his brilliant future at Washington to carry the city against former Mayor Nichols.

The Roxbury Councillor announced that he would appeal to Mayor Curley, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and former Representative Martin M. Lomasney to join the Democratic City Councillors, Representatives and Senators in the campaign to draft the congressman.

## To See Mayor Today

Although they have been political enemies for the past three years, Councillor Dowd and Mayor Curley are scheduled to smoke the pipe of peace tomorrow at City Hall. They staged a bitter battle in the campaign of two years ago when Dowd was re-elected to the Council from Tammany's South End, despite the public opposition of the Mayor.

Dowd said that he received a letter and telephone call from the Mayor inviting him to the Mayor's office tomorrow noon to consider Boston's public works programme under the National Recovery Act, which will go to the Council for approval. Dowd has accepted the Mayor's invitation.

## TIRAVIELIER CURLEY PROJECTS STIR OPPOSITION

### Councilmen to Study \$23,500,000 Relief Proposal

Mayor Curley faces the task tomorrow of whipping a somewhat rebellious city council into support of his unemployment relief proposal embodied in a program of public works of an estimated cost of \$23,500,000.

The mayor has asked the councilmen to confer with him at 1 o'clock and he will invite immediate approval of the necessary orders which have been prepared recording the council in favor of the projects, which are intended to be financed under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery act.

Council leaders were insistent yesterday that unless the mayor agreed to specifically bar mechanical equipment from every project they would decline even to consider his program.

"There will be no program if machines are to be used," said one councilman. "We've had enough of that in the last three years. We know how much unemployment was relieved on such a project as the Castle Island roadway and the various street construction jobs. In no instance was the number of men employed sufficient to make even a mark in the unemployment situation. We want to put men to work—not machines. And unless the mayor agrees that his program is not intended to be helpful to any contractors it won't get very far. If it is a legitimate movement to put men to work, it is a great idea, but if it means the use of machines instead of men it is bunk."

There appeared to be a doubt yesterday that the council would act without due consideration of the entire program. Some of the projects have not appealed with any force to councilmen.

It was pointed out that one item suggests spending \$1,500,000 for improvements at the Strandway.

"Let us see something resembling a plan on this one," said one councilman who refused to be quoted before tomorrow's meeting. "That's a lot of money and let's put the park commission on the spot and have it known just how the money is to be expended and for what."

# CURLEY HITS ROOSEVELT AID

Federal Budget Director  
Arouses His Ire

Mayor Curley thinks that Lewis A. Douglas, who as Director of the Federal Budget, is generally considered one of the "big frogs" of the Roosevelt Administration, is "the biggest ass in the county, because of his attitude toward the veterans."

Mr Curley thus publicly spoke his mind directly about one of the Administration's leaders in the presence of 22 City Councilors who visited the City Hall executive chamber this afternoon to hear commend to them the \$23,500,000 public works program which he has drawn up for Boston. The program would be effective only if the administrators of the National Recovery act advance the money to Boston with which to carry it out, in full or in part.

An unexpected development of the meeting was the statement by Mayor James M. Curley that he had private detectives working in the Welfare Department and they had been able to discover only minor infractions of the law.

But above and beyond this program in interest was Mr Curley's frank remark about a Roosevelt plan to the councilors. As they quitted his chamber afterward, to go up to the council chamber for the regular session, several councilors recited Democratic Mr Curley's "sour" comment upon a Democratic chairman, and the councilors variously interpreted it.

The consensus among the Councilors, based upon Mr Curley's remark, seemed to be that Mr Curley will remain at City Hall as Mayor until February, when his term re-elect expires, and that he will not take any post with the Roosevelt Administration.

Mr Curley's comment on Director Douglas was made in answer to a question by Councilor Norton, who asked the Mayor, "What do you think about Director Douglas?"

A day or two after Mr Curley quit Boston last June, for his European vacation, Lewis Douglas was in Boston, having come to receive, with Ex-Gov Alfred E. Smith an honorary degree from Harvard. Mr Curley did not at that time see Douglas.

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Didn't ex-Congressman "Joe" O'Connell say he expected Curley's endorsement? He did say so and he does expect.

But "Teddy" Glynn said the same thing—that is, Curley support for him, not for O'Connell. Oh, Dear no.

Former District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien has let it become known that Mayor Curley approves his candidacy.

But so has President "Joe" McGrath of the City Council—approval for McGrath, of course.

Other candidates may be expected to give themselves the Curley endorsement.

In fact it begins to look as though there would not be enough Curley endorsement to go around.

And the Mayor declares, meanwhile, that he is endorsing nobody and that he will not take any sides in the mayoralty war.

But the strong personal following which the Mayor has is too big an asset to be given up by any mayoralty candidate without a stout struggle. Hence the hopeful claims to Curley approval by the candidates in general.

The beret. Just a bit of Curley fun. The pipe at City Hall. Just a Curley fancy.

Wherefore, the mayoralty aspirants tell themselves, that His Honor doesn't really mean it when he talks about viewing the campaign merely as an innocent bystander.

## TRAVELER

### Curley's "No" Man to Retire

**R**ELUCTANTLY, Mayor Curley is accepting the resignation of Joseph A. Rourke, the city's commissioner of public works. Joe Rourke has fought against the mayor quite as vigorously as he has fought for him. Joe has been the stormiest member of the mayor's cabinet and we suspect that the mayor loves him for it.

"I'll be damned if I will!" was not an exceptional retort from Rourke to some suggestion by the mayor.

It all depended. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, Rourke would carry through the mayor's suggestions enthusiastically, because he was for them. But if he happened to be against a plan, the mayor knew he had the choice of accepting the situation or of losing Rourke. We have been with the mayor on one occasion when Joe blew up. After the fiery commissioner had left the office, the mayor chuckled like a pleased boy. He admires Rourke's courage and has a high respect for his engineering ability. The whole city agrees.

Rourke's work will be taken over for the balance of Mayor Curley's term by Christopher J. Carven, an engineer who has proved his ability in the city service. We deeply regret Joe Rourke's going but are very glad the city has a man like Carven to step into the breach.

TRAVELER

## CURLEY ASSAILED DOUGLAS, NAT'L BUDGET CHIEF

### Hits Vet Treatment in First Attack Upon Administration

Mayor Curley today termed Lewis Douglas, federal budget director, as "the biggest ass in the country in his attitude toward the veterans."

#### FIRST CRITICISM

This marked the first criticism which the Mayor has made of the Roosevelt administration, an administration which he worked hard to put in office.

The mayor expressed his opinion during the course of a conference which he held in his office with the entire membership of the Boston city council, trying to get the council promptly to pass the necessary order for the \$23,500,000 construction program which he would have the city undertake with funds from the national industrial recovery act in order to put people to work.

Present at the conference were Councilmen Dowd and Kelly, who had not previously appeared in the mayor's office for more than three years.

Councilman Clement A. Norton engaged in a running debate with the mayor over financing public works. Norton pressed the mayor as to the way in which these projects had been carried on in Boston.

Norton: "Did you ever know any tunnel in the world to cost as much as the East Boston tunnel? Do you know the way they finance public works abroad? I'm not in sympathy with the way they have been financed in Boston."

Curley: You've got a lot of pet theories. They sound awfully good. I don't think they're worth a damn."

Norton—Have you ever heard the Europeans say that \$500,000,000 will put only 2500 men to work? What do you think of Lewis Douglass, Roosevelt's director of the budget?

#### HIS OPINION OF DOUGLAS

Curley—Well, if you want to know what I think of Douglas, I should say Douglas is the biggest ass in the country in his attitude toward the veterans.

Norton, who is a veteran himself, did not press the point.

The discussion continued without it being definitely indicated what action the council would take on the loan order, except that several councilmen made it plain that if they vote for the order the money must all be used for day labor and materials and none of it for machines and fees to contractors.

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## BY PIPE AND BERET

*Mayor Curley often smokes a pipe at his Jamaicaway home, as shown here. But on his first day back at City Hall from his trip abroad His Honor actually smoked his pipe in his office, a new departure. Also he sported a beret on board ship.*



His Honor Mayor James M. Curley amuses himself on his return from abroad.

But the politicians, particularly the numerous Democratic candidates for Mayor, would like to know where to take the Mayor seriously.

When the liner Bremen docked, with the Curley family aboard, the Mayor wore one of those tricky French berets on his sagacious head. The press photographers gleefully snapped pictures of the beret-topped Curley.

But that head-gear was just a momentary whimsy, of course, just a Curley diversion. He is not wearing berets ordinarily.

Another departure—on his first day back at City Hall the Mayor smoked a pipe in his office. He regularly smokes a pipe in his home. But at City Hall, that was a bit different. Just another Curley diversion.

The worried politicians tried to translate the beret and the pipe into terms of political significance. Did they point to any one candidate as favored by the Mayor? Who could say?

Then, to make the situation all the more complicated, the Mayor declared solemnly that he would not back any one of the several mayoralty candidates in the Democratic fold.

Why should that complicate matters? If the Mayor is picking no favorite, then he is picking no favorite.

But the difficulty is that the candidates hate to believe it and decline to believe it. Why, some of them have already pre-empted the Curley support.



**Mayor in Beret**